

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
AND
PRIVACY ACTS**

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

HQ FILE: 100-50869

SECTION 22



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

NOTICE

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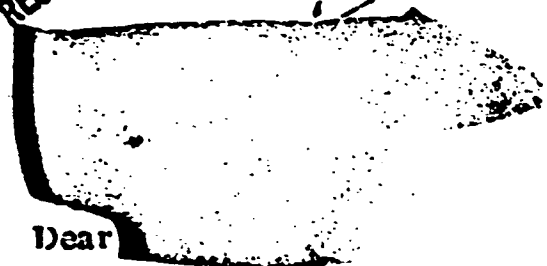
November 20, 1964

NOV 20 4 14 PM '64

READING ROOM

REC 67

123



Dear

Your letter of November 13th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, neither I nor representatives of the FBI have released a statement such as you indicated. My articles and speeches are a matter of public record and have been quoted from time to time. Their use, however, does not necessarily mean either that this Bureau has or has not approved the manner in which they are employed.

NOV 15 3 21 PM '64

With regard to the National Council of Churches, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy.

Enclosed is some literature which I trust will be of interest, along with a copy of "The Communist Party Line," which I prepared for the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee in 1961 to which report it is believed you referred. It is suggested you may wish to read it in its entirety.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 6
NOV 20 1964
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)
DTP:eje (3)

Enclosures and Note on next page.

TELETYPE UNIT

Enclosures:

**The Communist Party Line
Let's Fight Communism Sanelly!**

4/17/62 Internal Security Statement

4/1/61 LEB Introduction

"Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. His reference to the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee statement originally came to our attention in John Stormer's book, "None Dare Call It Treason," and its loose language would give a reader the impression the Director made this statement.

November 13, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

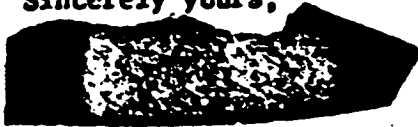
Dear Mr. Hoover,

The claim is sometimes made that the National Council of Churches has been and is now infiltrated by Communism. You are quoted as saying that this is true.

It is reported to us that in a report to the Senate Internal Security Sub-Committee in 1961 you stated "The National Council of Churches, its subordinate organizations, and the leaders of many of its affiliated denominations and their publications constantly parallel or follow the Communist Party line".

Please be kind enough to tell us whether you made the above statement and if you feel that the National Council of Churches is now infiltrated with communism or subversive influence.

Sincerely yours,



RCS:ns

100-5-4-1-12-1

REC 61

[Handwritten scribbles]

6-3112

[Handwritten signature]



of the American people is a challenge to the United States Government. The United States Government (U.S.G.) is the only government in the world which has a monopoly on the use of force. It is the only government which has the power to raise and spend money on a scale which is beyond the power of any other government. It is the only government which has the power to make laws which are binding on all the people of the United States. It is the only government which has the power to make war and peace. It is the only government which has the power to make treaties with other nations. It is the only government which has the power to make laws which are binding on all the people of the United States. It is the only government which has the power to make war and peace. It is the only government which has the power to make treaties with other nations.

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100-50869-105

REC-64

November 17, 1964

100-92861-1276

READING ROOM
B I



Dear

Your letter of November 11th has been received.

In response to your inquiry, neither I nor representatives of the FBI have issued a statement along the lines you have indicated. Any statement to the contrary is in error and it is hoped you will not use our position as a basis for inferring either that we have or have not "cleared" the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 6
NOV 18 1964
COMM-FBI

NOTE: By letter 9/28/64 [redacted] made the general inquiry concerning the National Council of Churches and was furnished outgoing 10/2/64. Current Bureau reprint material we usually send in response to an inquiry of this type was forwarded to him at that time. No derogatory information appears in Bufiles concerning him.

DTP/ufy
(3)

NOV 22 1964

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Handwritten notes and signatures on the left margin.

Handwritten signatures and initials in the center of the page.

READING ROOM stamp on the right margin.



- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. DeLoach _____
- Mr. Casper _____
- Mr. Callahan _____
- Mr. Conrad _____
- Mr. Evans _____
- Mr. Gale _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Sullivan _____
- Mr. Tavel _____
- Mr. Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Miss Holmes _____
- Miss Gandy _____

November 11, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Ninth and Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

You have been quoted, as well as other
official spokesmen of the Federal Bureau of Investi-
gation, as attacking the National Council of
Churches, specifically stating that it is sub-
versive.

Will you comment on these supposed charges?

Cordially,

EJS/eth

EXP. PROC.

NOV 13 1964

EX-117

REC-64

100-50519-1286

NOV 13 1964

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

November 16, 1964

REC 8



Dear

B. J. ...
K. ...

NOV 16 2 58 PM '64
FBI
RECEIVED

Your letter of November 10th has been received.

While I would like to be of assistance, information in FBI files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. In view of this, I hope you will understand my inability to comment in the manner you requested. I am unable to suggest a source where you can obtain data of the type you desire.

The Communist Party in this country has attempted to infiltrate and subvert every segment of our society. Its efforts are being thwarted by the FBI's internal security programs, by investigation, arrest and prosecution of Party functionaries, and by widespread, intelligent public opposition to the communist philosophy. These achievements are being accomplished through orderly, legal procedures. Despite this, the world communist conspiracy and its advocates in the United States continue to pose a basic threat to our country.

Regrettably, there is a tendency on the part of some to make exaggerated charges as to the extent of communist success in gaining influence within legitimate organizations and segments of our society, such as our religious institutions. We must continually be alert to communist attempts to penetrate and influence; however, our efforts must be rational and objective.

MAILED
NOV 16 1964
COMM-FBI

Enclosed is some material I hope you will find of interest.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (4)

EFT:kcf (3)

See Enclosures and Note on Next Page

NOV 27 1964

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Enclosures (4)
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
Faith in Freedom, 12-4-63
Internal Security Statement, 4-17-62
LEB Introduction, 4-61

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

[REDACTED]
November 10, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director of The F. B. I.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am secretary of the Mixed Adult Class of the [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Methodist Church in [REDACTED]

Recently, we have been discussing Communist infiltration in our churches and church literature. Some of our group are convinced that we have Communists in The National Council of Churches and other policy making offices, while others seem to think discussion of this issue only tends to cause disunity in the church. Personally, I am a firm believer in speaking up to expose these people.

I am sure a statement from a man of your distinction and honor will be a great help in determining our future actions in this matter.

Will you please answer the following questions for us?

Do you know if any known Communists are affiliated with The National Council of Churches?

What advice do you have for church groups who suspect Communist infiltration?

How and where could one check on an individual or organization that may be suspected?

Any information that you may give us on this issue will be most helpful and appreciated.

Sincerely yours,
[REDACTED]

REC 8

101

NOV 23 1964

November 20, 1964

REC- 55
EX-101

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of November 14th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

MAILED 6
NOV 20 1964
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

[Handwritten initials]

Enclosures (4)
"Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
4/17/62 Internal Security statement
4/1/61 LEB Intro

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
DTP:fcl (3)

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Loach _____
- Wapner _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

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[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials]

NOV 21 3 23 PM '64
READING ROOM
FBI

[REDACTED]
November 14, 1964

The Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington
D. C.

Gentlemen:

Recently the wave of criticism that the National Council of Churches is "Communist-infiltrated" has increased. As a church member whose church is affiliated with the National Council of Churches I would like to know how your department stands on this crucial issue, and basically to ask one question: Are there Communists in the National Council of Churches. Any information you may be able to supply me with regarding this matter will be most graciously appreciated.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

EX-101

100-50869-128
NOV 22 1964

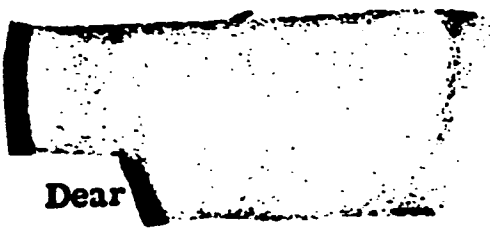
November 18, 1964

REC 45 100-10111-1212

Kirby
B...

RECEIVED
FBI

NOV 18 2 23 PM '64



Dear

Your letter of November 13th has been received.

With respect to your inquiries, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. In addition, the FBI does not issue clearances or nonclearances of any type. Therefore, I am certain you will understand why I am not in a position to comment along the lines you have suggested, and it is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the matters you mentioned.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 6
NOV 18 1964
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (4)
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
Internal Security Statement, 4-17-62
Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism
LEB Introduction, 4-61

V.
STP
8/10

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- DeLoach _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Evans _____
- Malone _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

DTP:kcl (3)

JPH

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

November 13, 1964

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have read, with increasing alarm, at the many many areas that the Communist are getting a foothold into areas of our religious life, particularly with the National Council of Churches, World Council of Churches, and our own Methodist Church.

Many of my friends as well as myself are concerned about this matter and the influence it has on our lives and particularly the lives of our children who are growing up in this society.

Our own church literature seems to be leaning farther & farther to the left and in many cases has posed questions such as "Can we be sure that Christianity works better in a democracy than in a Communist country?"...and many other cases.

As a matter of record, and for my own personal knowlege, please advise me as to the extent of this influence in our church organizations as far as you know now.

The books I have read have been called "hatemongers" by our own pastor, and instead of trying to refute the information these writers give, he usually attacks the writers and denies that there is anybody in the National Council of Churches aiding the communist causes directly or indirectly by their acts or deeds.

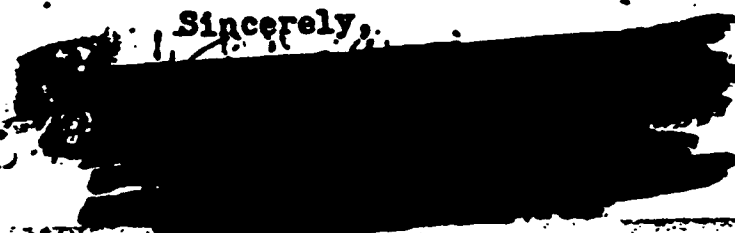
You, yourself, have been quoted in several of these books. I believe that a letter from you either confirming or denying the existence of Communists or persons aiding Communist causes in these organizations would be of great value to the members of our church in determining a course of action to counteract this force.

Again, many many thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

REC 45 100-5047-125

NOV 16 1964



CONFIDENTIAL

November 18, 1964

REC-21

1281

NOV 18 3 06 PM '64
FBI
RECEIVED HEADING ROOM

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of November 14th has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. In view of this, I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment concerning the organization to which you referred. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 6
NOV 18 1964
COMM-FBI

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent or the United Council of Churches. It is believed that the correspondent is actually referring to the National Council of Churches which is well known to the Bureau.

WAM:mlk (3)

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- DeLoach _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

Handwritten signatures and initials:
JH
Baker
LHM
86

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

NOV 18 1964
edm

TRUE COPY

9-26-64

Dear Sir:

I am very intested in my Country and church so when I hear of communist infiltration in either I am disturbed.

I have read in a Dan Smoot Report that the United Council of Churches has communist leadership and that it is actually a communist front organization.

I do not like to take things that are so important to my life as this for granted so could you please let me know what the United Council of Churches rating as a commie front is

Thank you for your time & service

[REDACTED]

AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO

[REDACTED]

CODE

[REDACTED]

REC-21

12.1

10/10/64

4-26-64

Dear Sir,

I am very interested in my country and church so when I hear of Communist infiltration in either I am disturbed.

I have read in a Dan Smoot Report that the United Council of Churches has Communist leadership and that it is actually a Communist front organization.

I do not like to take things that are so important to my life as this for granted so could you please let me know what the United Council of Churches rating as a Communist front is.

Thank you for your time & name

W.H.V. [redacted] MIB

170
11-11-64

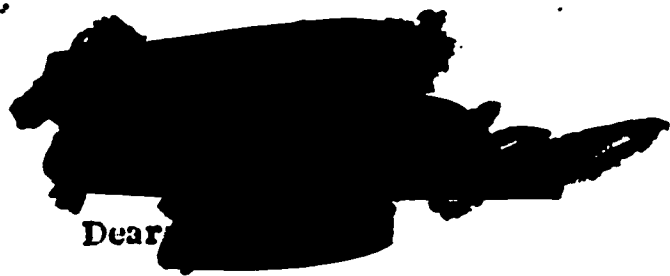
11-11-64

November 17, 1964

NOV 17 3 39 PM '64

RECEIVED ROOM
G I

128
100-
128



Dear

I received your letter of November 11th and want to thank you for your generous remarks concerning my administration of the FBI. It is hoped our future endeavors will continue to merit your support and approval.

With respect to your inquiry, the FBI does not issue clearances or nonclearances of any type. In addition, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Therefore, I trust you will understand why I am not in a position to comment along the lines you have suggested and that you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the matters you mentioned.

Enclosed is some literature I hope you will find of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 6
NOV 17 1964
COMM-FBI

- Enclosures (4)
- "Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism"
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement

NOTE: No information appears in Bufiles to preclude sending this letter.

DTP:rsp (3)

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Handwritten checkmark and circle.

Handwritten signature/initials.

Handwritten initials 'P/A'.

[REDACTED]

November 11, 1964

8-

The Hon. J. Edgar Hoover
F.B.I.
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

For many months the churches of the Southwest have been having a most difficult time due to the intensive political propaganda of the extreme right and the Birchers. Although the National Council of the Episcopal Church, Bishops and Deputies, voted to stay in the National Council of Churches, there is still widespread suspicion that there are many Communists among Episcopal priests. Even some of my most faithful parishioners are afraid and confused. They come to me seeking help and clarification. They have received mountains of material through the election campaign - always "authenticated" - against the church and the National Council of Churches.

If you have made any statement clearing the Episcopal Church of these charges, or some positive statement about your findings on the churches, I would so appreciate hearing from you. I know only too well that there are some extremely liberal clergy in the church; because liberal, the extreme right tends to feel they are Communists. I am sure, too, that there have been a few undesirable men, who have acted irresponsibly. This is true of most organizations.

Like so many of your fellow Americans, I have long admired your courageous stand on the importance of the role of the church, and the undergirding our youth with moral and spiritual values. At the moment, I find that the over 2000 sheep for whom I am the shepherd, need the same steady diet:

100-1001-1270
Faithfully yours,

JHS/ch
[REDACTED]

CONFIDENTIAL

3-133

100-50769-1

November 17, 1964



NOV 17 4 06 PM '64
FBI
RECEIVED ROOM

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of November 13th, with enclosure, has been received.

In response to your inquiry, I must advise that information contained in the files of the FBI is confidential and available only for official use in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. We have not, therefore, compiled a list such as you requested.

I am enclosing material regarding the general subject of communism which I hope you will find informative, and I am returning the envelope you so thoughtfully forwarded.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 6
NOV 17 1964
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)
Statement on Communism, 7-15-62.
Deadly Duel
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
America -- Soviet Espionage Target #1
Self-addressed envelope

NOTE: Based on information furnished, correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

SAW:des (3)

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

NOV 24 1964 MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

[REDACTED]
Nov. 13 1964.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover.

Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I am writing you in regard to a pamphlet which I received recently. This pamphlet stated that all churches in the United States which belong to the National Council of Churches of Christ are inclined to lean toward Communism, and that a certain percent of all money taken in by the church goes to help Communism in this country.

I am a member of the Methodist Church, and this Church does belong to this Organization.

I am enclosing a self addressed stamped envelope, and would you please send me a list of all ministers and clergymen in this country who are Communist.

Thank you
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

act 11-17-64
5-11-64

REC 14
NOV 15 1964

100-50767-1

NOV 15 1964

18

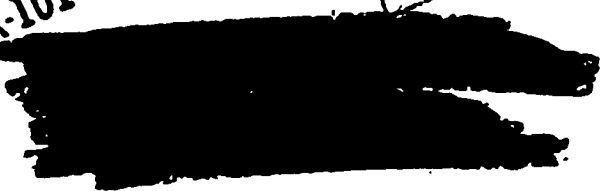
ENCLOSURE

REC-6

November 16, 1964

127

EX-101 100



Dear [redacted]

Your letter of November 10, 1964, with enclosure, has been received.

While I can readily understand the concern which prompted you to write, I must point out that the FBI, which is strictly an investigative agency, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions concerning the character or reputation of any organization, publication or individual, nor does this Bureau give "license" to any individuals or societies to publicly praise or condemn any organization or person.

Information contained in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only, pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice. This Bureau has no control, however, over any private individuals who choose to criticize groups with which they do not agree and does not seek such control.

For the reasons I have set forth, I can assure you that the FBI has not made any public statement praising or condemning the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. I trust you will understand my position.

In view of your interest, I am enclosing some material on communism. You may also desire to read my book, "Masters of Deceit," which deals with the menace of communism and the efforts of those who seek to undermine our basic freedoms. A copy of this book may be available in your local library.

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Evans _____
- Malone _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

MAILED 6
 NOV 16 1964
 COMM-FBI (5)

Sincerely yours,
Edgar Hoover

[Handwritten signatures and initials: JHM, DE, etc.]

1 - Baltimore - Enclosures (2)
 ENCLOSURES and NOTE next page
 GDM:leh (4)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

NOV 17 3 28 PM '64
 REC'D - COMM-FBI

[REDACTED]

Enclosures (5)

Storming The Skies: Christianity Encounters Communism

Let's Fight Communism Sanelly!

The Communist Menace: Red Goals and Christian Ideals

Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion

4-1-61 [REDACTED] Introduction [REDACTED]

NOTE: Bufiles reflect no information identifiable with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mr. Tolson
 Mr. Belmont
 Mr. Mohr
 Mr. DeLoach
 Mr. Casper
 Mr. Callahan
 Mr. Conrad
 Mr. Evans
 Mr. Gale
 Mr. Rosen
 Mr. Sullivan
 Mr. Tavel
 Mr. Trotter
 Tele. Room
 Miss Holmes
 Miss Gandy

November 10, 1954

J. Edgar Hoover
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Attached you will find a letter written to the DELWARE STATE NEWS, Dover, Delaware, which quotes the fact that the Director of the F.B.I. has categorized what is a Communist supporter, [REDACTED]. The letter also contains an accusation that the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. has as one of its objectives "Discredit J. Edgar Hoover and the F.B.I."

These men and groups have frequently quoted your office to prove their points against the FCC. If the F.B.I. indeed has such information, then it should be published openly for all of us to see and given wide public distribution. If the F.B.I. has not said nor implied these things, then a public refutation of the indictments need to be made so that the "documents" of these men who attack us may be refuted once and for all.

It appears that we have given license for men and societies to publicly accuse and berate individuals and say anything short of legal libel to smear and condemn not only good forthright American citizens, but Christian groups in our country. I hear nothing from either the F.B.I. or our elected men in Congress upholding the integrity of our Churches, Churchmen, or the N.C.C. Yet, the F.B.I. and Congressional Records are continually quoted as authoritative proof of their accusations.

100-50869-1278

[REDACTED]

ENCLOSURE

1 Encl as Stated.

NOV 18 1954

ck: 11-16-64
 R.F.M. 104

XEROX COPY EACH
 DATE 11-16-64

CORRESPONDENCE

A PASTOR SMOKED OUT?

To the Editor:

The letter to DSN of Rev. Curtis E. Ross, (10-27-64) in which he stoutly defends the National Council of Churches makes interesting reading to anyone who will study the activities of the NCC.

The NCC must be exposed for what it is: An enemy of both God and our Country. Now I know this will start people screaming LIES - HATE - SNEAR - etc. but remember I will give good money for correct information to the contrary. What the Reverend did not say is that the NCC has thousands of its Leadership as Members of Communist Fronts and Causes --. A result of OFFICIAL INVESTIGATIONS by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, booklet Feb. 25, 1960 page 1303. Nor did he say that of the 18 Major objectives of the Communist party against America, that the NCC has these same objectives (18) also against our Country. For lack of space I will list only 5 of the NCC objectives.

1. Abolish Loyalty Oaths (Communist People's World, 9-13-54, page 3)
2. Abolish All Investigative Committees on Communism (American Legion Newspaper, "Firing Line", 1-15-58)
3. Increase Foreign Aid to Communist Countries ("News and Views", Wheaton, Illinois, Oct. 1958)
4. Discredit J. Edgar Hoover and the F.B.I. ("Communism in the Churches", by J.E. Matthews, page 21)
5. Clemency for Convicted Spies ("Recognize Red China", Circuit Riders, Cincinnati, Ohio pag 7)

Does this put Rev. Curtis E. Ross in the category of Communist supporters, outlined by the Director of the F.B.I. as 1. Sympathizers and Fellow Travelers, 2. DUPED PERSONS? Our people must know that the Communists have succeeded in infiltrating and using this Church group the NCC as a TOOL to take over both our Religion and our Country.

Our people should know, about Communism in our Churches. Contact this writer for information.

~~Edward S. Ritter~~ Sr.
800 S. Bradford St.
Dover, Del.

100-50869-1278

November 16, 1964

REC-24

100-5-107-1077

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

NOV 16 10 55 AM '64
RECEIVED
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Your letter of November 8th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches or the other group you mentioned.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 6
NOV 16 1964
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (4)
4-1-61 LEB Introduction
4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
Let's Fight Communism Sanely
Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.


DTP:med
(3)

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. DeLoach _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Bishop _____
- Mr. Casper _____
- Mr. Callahan _____
- Mr. Conrad _____
- Mr. Felt _____
- Mr. Gale _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Sullivan _____
- Mr. Tavel _____
- Mr. Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Miss Holmes _____
- Miss Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

TRUE COPY


11-8-64

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am writing to you for any information that you might have and could send me concerning - "Communism in the National Council of Churches." Also the involvement of the Methodist church and their clergy.

I am only an interested church member and would like to know the truth first hand.

Yours truly



REC-24

11-5-19-12-11
8-RTT

11-1-74

[REDACTED]

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover

I am writing to you for any
information that you might
have and could send me con-
cerning - "Communism in the
National Council of Churches"
Also the involvement of the
Methodist church and their clergy

I am only an interested church
member and would like to see
the truth first hand.

Yours truly,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CORRESPONDENCE

SAC, Louisville (62-0)

11-12-64

X-103
Director, FBI
REC-6

100-50109-1571

THE UNITED SOCIETY OF
METHODIST LAYMEN, INC.
BOX 417
AUSTIN 64, TEXAS
INFORMATION CONCERNING
RESEARCH (CRIME RECORDS)

Reurlet 11-4-64.

Information concerning captioned organization has come to the Bureau's attention on several occasions in the past. It has been characterized as a right-wing group which frequently magnifies the degree of communist infiltration into clerical circles.

J. B. Matthews, author of the book, "Communism in the Churches," mentioned in your enclosure to referenced letter, is a former member of the Socialist Party. He testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1939. He was thereafter employed by the Dies Committee from 1939 to 1945 and was Executive Secretary of that Committee in 1942. In 1953 he was Executive Staff Director of the Senate Permanent Investigations Subcommittee (McCarthy Committee). He wrote the article "Reds and Our Churches," which was published in the July, 1953, issue of "American Mercury," in which he alleged at least 7,000 Protestant clergymen had befriended communists. He voluntarily submitted his resignation to the Subcommittee following considerable publicity over the appearance of his article.

For a number of years allegations have been made by a number of people, including some clergymen, to the effect that the National Council of the Churches of Christ has been infiltrated by communists. Although we have never conducted an investigation of the National Council of the Churches of Christ, as such, we have kept abreast of the efforts of the Communist Party, USA, to infiltrate this organization through our over-all investigations of the Communist Party, USA, and communist efforts to infiltrate mass-type organizations. It does not appear from the information we have developed that the Communist Party, USA, is dictating the policies of the National Council of the Churches of Christ

(See note next page)

San Antonio

JMM:bjh

TELETYPE UNIT

NOV 19 1964

NOV 12 1964
FBI
RECEIVED

Handwritten signatures and initials, including "APM" and "11/10/64".

SAC, Louisville
Re: THE UNITED SOCIETY OF
METHODIST LAYMEN, INC.

[REDACTED]

The above is for your information and guidance in dealing with inquiries concerning captioned organization. However, as a matter of policy, the Bureau does not evaluate or otherwise furnish opinions or characterizations relating to organizations, publications or individuals. Consequently, you should advise [REDACTED] that we cannot be of any help to him but it is appreciated that he has contacted the FBI in this matter.

NOTE: Bufiles contain nothing identifiable regarding [REDACTED]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 11/4/64

FROM : SAC, LOUISVILLE (62-0) (P)

SUBJECT: THE UNITED SOCIETY OF
METHODIST LAYMEN, INC.
Box 417
Austin 64, Texas
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Enclosed herewith for the information of the Bureau and the San Antonio Office is one copy of a pamphlet or brochure which was furnished to the Lexington, Ky., Resident Agency by

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised that this pamphlet or brochure is apparently being distributed by mail in Lexington, Ky., as this particular copy was received by him through the mail. [REDACTED] stated that he has no reason for being on any mailing list of such an organization as he is a member of a Presbyterian Church in Lexington, Ky.

It is noted that of the objectives listed for the National Council of Churches and the objectives of the Communist Party, item 14 is "DISCREDIT J. EDGAR HOOVER AND THE FBI."

The Bureau and the San Antonio Office are requested to furnish any information they may have concerning this organization and to advise whether any such information particularly with reference to an attempt to discredit Mr. HOOVER or the FBI can be furnished to [REDACTED] who is greatly concerned concerning this particular item, and the general tenor of the whole brochure.

No comment has been made to [REDACTED] concerning this matter and the copy of the brochure was accepted without any implication that any action would be taken by the FBI in this matter.

- 3-Bureau (enc. 1)
- 2-San Antonio (enc. 1)
- 2-Louisville
- DIR/abf

EX-103

NOV 8 1964

ENCLOSURE

CRIME RESEARCH

COPIES DESTROYED

28 JAN 14 1974



1. WHEN IT CALLS FOR THE RECOGNITION OF RED CHINA?
2. WHEN IT ENDORSES THE ACTIVITIES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES?
3. WHEN IT URGES THE READING OF COMMUNIST, PRO-COMMUNIST AND PORNOGRAPHIC LITERATURE IN ORDER TO ENLIGHTEN THE NEGRO-AMERICAN?
4. WHEN IT ACCEPTS A SOCIALIST-COMMUNIST ECONOMIC CREED?
5. WHEN IT CALLS FOR "PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE" WITH THE "PEACE-LOVING" COMMUNISTS?
6. WHEN IT URGES THE ABOLITION OF SECURITY LAWS?
7. WHEN IT CALLS FOR THE ABOLITION OF ALL COMMITTEES INVESTIGATING COMMUNISM?
8. WHEN IT SEEKS TO DISCREDIT MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR OF THE F.B.I.?
9. WHEN IT URGES FOR A ONE-WORLD SOCIALISTIC GOVERNMENT?
10. WHEN IT SEEKS TO "DUTY" THE AIR FORCE TRAINING MANUAL?
11. WHEN IT URGES THE DISCRETIONING OF THE FILM "OPERATION ABOLITION"?
12. WHEN IT CALLS FOR BANNING NUCLEAR TESTING, EVEN UNILATERALLY IF NECESSARY?
13. WHEN IT SUPPORTS INCREASED FOREIGN AID (AND CONTINUED AID TO COMMUNIST COUNTRIES)?
14. WHEN IT CALLS FOR THE SURRENDER OF THE WEST IF ASKED TO DO SO BY THAT ANTI-CHRIST KHRUSHCHEV?
15. WHEN IT ENGAGES IN THE ESCORTING OF COMMUNIST CLERGYMEN AROUND OUR COUNTRY?
16. WHEN IT SUPPORTS THE CASTRO REVOLUTION AND EVEN FINANCES THE "PREACHER OF THE CASTRO REVOLUTION"?
17. WHEN IT CALLS THE CONCEPT OF NUCLEAR RETALIATION CONTRARY TO CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES?
18. WHEN IT ENDORSES THE ABANDONMENT OF SEATO?
19. WHEN IT SUBSTITUTES THE "SOCIAL GOSPEL" FOR THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST?
20. WHEN IT SUPPORTS THE LAW-VIOLATING "FREEDOM RIDERS" IN THE SOUTH?
21. WHEN IT SPONSORS THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES WHICH HAS COMMUNISTS ON ITS CENTRAL COMMITTEE?
22. WHEN IT TAKES A STAND ON A MAJOR POLITICAL ISSUE WITH A QUORUM OF ONLY 20 MEMBERS NEEDED AND PRETENDS TO BE THE "VOICE" OF 40 MILLION PROTESTANTS?
23. WHEN IT MAINTAINS ITS ACTIONS TO BE THE "CHRISTIAN POSITION"?
24. WHEN IT URGES ADMISSION TO THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF THE COMMUNIST-DOMINATED RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH?
25. WHEN IT URGES THE ACCEPTANCE IN THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF ALL THE RUSSIAN AND CHINESE "SHOW-CASE" CHURCHES?
26. WHEN IT DEMANDS REPUTATION OF THE FINAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL LAY COMMITTEE?
27. WHEN IT CALLS FOR THE SUPPORT OF THOSE CLERGYMEN WHO HAVE BEEN REPEATEDLY INVOLVED IN COMMUNIST FRONT?
28. WHEN IT DEMANDS THE REPEAL OF THE CORNALLY AMENDMENT?
29. WHEN IT URGES THE ABOLITION OF THE WALTER-McCARRAN IMMIGRATION ACT, HENCE OPENING THE FLOOD GATES TO MARXIST-ORIENTATED PEOPLES?
30. WHEN IT URGES FEDERAL AID TO EDUCATION THEREBY RESULTING IN FEDERAL CONTROL OF EDUCATION?
31. WHEN IT URGES THE ABOLITION OF A PURELY NATIONAL CONCEPT OF SECURITY?
32. WHEN IT SEEKS THE ABOLITION OF UNIVERSAL MILITARY TRAINING?
33. WHEN IT REQUESTS CLEMENCY FOR CONVICTED COMMUNIST SPIES?
34. WHEN IT CALLS FOR THE CESSATION OF MEXICAN MIGRATORY FARM WORKERS IN THE U.S., HENCE PRECIPITATING A COMMUNIST COUP IN NORTHERN MEXICO?
35. WHEN IT ENDORSES THE UNIONIZATION OF FARMERS?
36. WHEN IT SUPPORTS THE EXTENSION OF THE RECIPROCAL TRADE ACT?
37. WHEN IT CONTINUES THE POLICIES OF THE OLD FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES WHICH WAS BRANDED "SUBVERSIVE" BY NAVAL INTELLIGENCE IN 1935?
38. WHEN IT CONSIDERS ITSELF THE VOICE OF PROTESTANTISM?
39. WHEN IT AIDS AND ABETS THE COMMUNIST CONSPIRACY?
40. WHEN IT DEMANDS THE SOLE RIGHT ON RADIO AND TELEVISION TO SPEAK FOR PROTESTANTISM?
41. WHEN IT ENDORSES GREATER AND GREATER FEDERAL CONTROL AND INVOLVEMENT IN STATE AND LOCAL POLICIES?
42. WHEN IT ACCEPTS A CASH GIFT OF \$200,000 FROM THE CIO?
43. WHEN IT SEEKS THE ABOLITION OF RIGHT-TO-WORK LAWS?
44. WHEN IT URGES THE ABOLITION OF LOYALTY OATHS?
45. WHEN IT SUPPORTS THE GIVING UP OF OUR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY TO THE UNITED NATIONS.
46. WHEN IT URGES DESTRUCTION OF PASSPORT LAWS, THEREBY MAKING IT POSSIBLE FOR COMMUNISTS TO TRAVEL ABROAD?
47. WHEN IT STOOPS TO "NAME CALLING" AND "GUILT BY ASSOCIATION" TO SILENCE ITS ENEMIES?
48. WHEN IT SPONSORS STUDY MATERIAL THAT FOLLOWS THE CURRENT LINE OF SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY?
49. WHEN IT SELLS MATERIAL THAT IS TRULY A MASTERPIECE OF RED PROPAGANDA?
50. WHEN IT CALLS FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION (AN ORGANIZATION SET UP TO REACH THE PUBLIC CONCERNING THE EVIL AND DANGERS OF COMMUNISM)?

Do YOU PERSONALLY AGREE HONESTLY WITH EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THE ABOVE
PRONOUNCEMENTS?

If you do not agree please help spread this document far and wide. Additional copies
available for your contribution to:

THE UNITED SOCIETY OF METHODIST LAYMEN, INC.
Box 417
AUSTIN 64, TEXAS

9201-57825-20

OBJECTIVES OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

- 1. **PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE, PEACE**
 (PEOPLES WORLD 3/5/50, PAGE 3) ("RECOGNIZE RED CHINA, CIRCUIT RIDERS, INC., PAGES 2-3-13")
- 2. **ABOLISH ARMAMENT**
 (PEOPLES WORLD 3/5/50, PAGE 3, ALSO "RECOGNIZE RED CHINA", CIRCUIT RIDERS, CINCINNATI, OHIO)
- 3. **ABOLISH NUCLEAR TESTING**
 (PEOPLES WORLD, 8/17/57, PAGE 7)
- 4. **ABOLISH LOYALTY SECURITY LAWS**
 ("COMMUNISM IN THE CHURCHES", BY J. B. MATTHEWS, PAGE 7)
- 5. **ABOLISH LOYALTY OATHS**
 (PEOPLES WORLD 2/13/54, PAGE 3)
- 6. **ABOLISH ALL INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEES ON COMMUNISM**
 (AMERICAN LEGION NEWSPAPER, "FIBER LINE")
- 7. **INTEGRATE**
 (ARTICLE BY MARCUS BARTH IN PRESSY. MAGAZINE, "SOCIAL PROGRESS," BY MARTIN LUTHER KING, PEOPLES WORLD, 3/5/50)
- 8. **CHANGE THE SOCIAL ORDER**
 (THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, APPRAISAL, CARL MEINTIRE)
- 9. **DECREASE FOREIGN AID & FOREIGN AID TO COMMUNIST COUNTRIES**
 (NEWS AND VIEWS, WHEATON, ILL., OCT., 1950)
- 10. **RECOGNITION OF RED CHINA**
 (BY R. A. SYDAL, CONGRESS, RECORD OF 2/25/50, & PEOPLES WORLD 2/5, 1950)
- 11. **ADVANCE PROPAGANDA EFFORTS THROUGH COMMUNIST FRONTS**
 ("COMMUNISM IN THE CHURCHES", BY J. B. MATTHEWS, PAGE 9)
- 12. **RECRUIT OTHERS TO THE CONSPIRACY**
 ("COMMUNISM IN THE CHURCHES", BY J. B. MATTHEWS, PAGE 9)
- 13. **JOIN POLITICAL AND LABOR MOVEMENTS**
 (COUNCIL LETTER NO. 440, 10/1/50)
- 14. **DISCREDIT J. EDGAR HOOVER AND THE F.B.I.**
 ("COMMUNISM IN THE CHURCHES", BY J.B. MATTHEWS, PAGE 21)
- 15. **DESTRUCTION OF IMMIGRATION & PASSPORT LAWS**
 (N.U.A.C. REPORT NO. 187, 3/6/50, P. 45. "NEWS & VIEWS, 6/55)
- 16. **CLEMENCY FOR CONVICTED SPIES**
 ("RECOGNIZE RED CHINA", CIRCUIT RIDERS, CINCINNATI, OHIO, P. 16)
- 17. **SMEAR SENATOR JO McCARTHY**
 ("COMMUNISM IN THE CHURCHES", BY J. B. MATTHEWS, PAGE 7)
- 18. **RECONSTRUCT RELIGION ON BASIS OF SCIENTIFIC MATERIALISM**
 (ECONOMIC COUNCIL LETTER NO. 440, 10/1/50—"THEOLOGY FOR PROTESTANTS", TIME MAGAZINE, 3/16/50).
 (N.U.A.C. - HOUSE UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE.
 PEOPLE DO NOT REALIZE THEIR CHURCH BELONGS TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES. DOES YOURS?

OBJECTIVES OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY

- 1. **PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE, PEACE**
 (AMER. BAR ASSOC. REPORT, CONGRESS. RECORD OF 2/22/50, P. 6
 N.U.A.C. REPORT NO. 1254, PAGE 12)
- 2. **DISARMAMENT**
 (PEOPLES WORLD OF 10/10/50, PAGE 5—REPORT OF THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, 3/20/50, PAGE 5)
- 3. **BAN NUCLEAR TESTING**
 (REPORT OF THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, 3/20/50, PAGE 6)
- 4. **ABOLISH LOYALTY-SECURITY LAWS**
 (AMER. BAR ASSOC. REPORT, CONGRESS. RECORD OF 2/22/50, P. 6)
- 5. **ABOLISH LOYALTY OATHS**
 N.U.A.C. REPORT NO. 187 OF 3/2/50, PAGE 81)
- 6. **ABOLISH ALL INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEES ON COMMUNISM**
 (N.U.A.C. REPORT NO. 187 OF 3/2/50, P. 84)
- 7. **INTEGRATION**
 ("SUBVERSION IN RACIAL UNREST", PUBLIC HEARINGS STATE OF LOUISIANA, MARCH 1957 - N.U.A.C. REPORT NO. 224 OF 2/2/50)
- 8. **CHANGE THE SOCIAL ORDER**
 ("BLUEPRINT FOR WORLD REVOLT", BY PETER STELL, 1910-1950)
- 9. **INCREASE FOREIGN AID & FOREIGN AID TO COMMUNIST COUNTRIES**
 (REPORT OF THE JUDICIARY COM. OF 3/20/50, P. 6)
- 10. **RECOGNITION OF RED CHINA**
 (AMER. BAR ASSOC. REPORT, CONGRESS. RECORD OF 3/22/50, P. 6)
- 11. **ADVANCE PROPAGANDA EFFORTS THROUGH CHURCH**
 (N.U.A.C. REPORT NO. 257 OF 4/3/50, PAGE 78 - AND "COMMUNISM IN THE CHURCHES" BY J. B. MATTHEWS)
- 12. **RECRUIT OTHERS FOR THE CONSPIRACY**
 (N.U.A.C. REPORT NO. 187, P. 4 (1950) - NO. 250, P. 57 OF 4/50).
- 13. **JOIN POLITICAL AND LABOR MOVEMENTS**
 (JUDICIARY COMMITTEE REPORTS OF 3/20/50 PAGES 18 TO 22, AND OF 12/21/55, PAGES 90-91).
- 14. **DISCREDIT J. EDGAR HOOVER & THE F.B.I.**
 (EDWARD J. MURPHY, L. A. TIMES 4/16/50 & "THE NATION" OF OCTOBER, 1950)
- 15. **DESTRUCTION OF IMMIGRATION & PASSPORT LAWS**
 (N.U.A.C. REPORT NO. 187, P. 45, 3/6/50 & NO. 1254, P. 43, 1950).
- 16. **CLEMENCY FOR CONVICTED SPIES**
 (PEOPLES WORLD OF 10/3/50, PAGE 12 AND THE GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT, "THE SHAMEFUL YEARS," N.U.A.C., 1950)
- 17. **SMEAR SENATOR JO McCARTHY**
 ("POLITICAL AFFAIRS", SEPT. 1951. DAILY WORKER 10/5/51 AND 4/5/50).
- 18. **RECONSTRUCT RELIGION ON BASIS OF SCIENTIFIC MATERIALISM**
 ("BLUEPRINT FOR WORLD CONQUEST", NEWS EVENTS 1948).

November 12, 1964

100-50269-1010

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of November 5th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Therefore, I trust you will understand why I am not in a position to comment along the lines you have suggested and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

MAILED 6
NOV 12 1964
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

[Handwritten initials]

- Enclosures (4)
- 4/1/61 LEB Introduction
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- 4/17/62 Internal Security Statement
- "Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"
- NOTE: There is no record of correspondent in Bufiles.
- DTP:dll (3)

Tolson _____
 DeLoach _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

NOV 11 1964

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten initials]

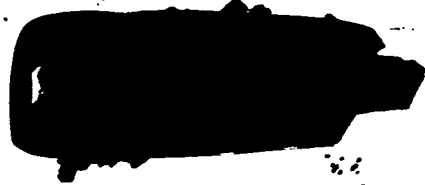
[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials]

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

NOV 12 11 26 AM '64

TRUE COPY



November 5, 1964

Dear Sir:

() There has been (and still is) quite a controversy over the National Council of Churches. Is this a communist front organization? Are there communists in it? If so, how many? If it isn't communist, who is making it an issue? In short, what has the FBI found out about the NCC?

Sincerely,



H

100 - 117 - 1215

REC-23

S. R. P.

Atlanta 5/10/61

Dear Sir:

There has been (and still is) quite a controversy over the National Council of Churches. Is this a communist front organization? Are there communists in it? If so, how many? If it isn't communist, who is making it an issue? In short, what has the W.B. found out about the N.C.C.?

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

17c 11/10/61
all

17c 11/10/61
all

November 12, 1964

EX-101

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of November 7th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry as to where you can obtain copies of "The Daily Worker," it is contrary to the policy of this Bureau to furnish such information. In addition, the contents of our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and are available for official use only. I trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy, and it is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

NOV 17 10 28 AM '64
TRAINING ROOM

Enclosed is some literature which I hope will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

A. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 6
NOV 12 1964
COMM-FBI

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

- Enclosures (5)
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
- One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. While "The Daily Worker" is presently defunct, correspondent obviously wants copies of the Communist Party origin and it is not felt that an explanation is warranted for the purpose of this communication.

Tolson _____
 DeLoach _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

REC:med
(3) 11/10/64

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

[Handwritten initials]

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]

Dear Sir,

I would like to obtain several recent copys of the communist paper, "The Daily Worker" How may I do this? I'm interested in 1st hand knowledge of their attitude toward this election.

I am also interested in the attack Senator Joseph McCarthy made on the protestant clergy. I'd like all the information I can get. I am most anxious to hear from you.

Thank you.

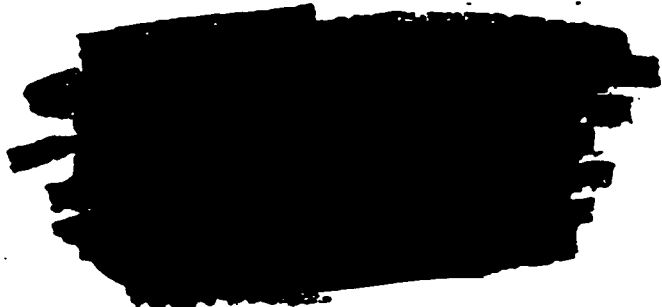
Sincerely,

/s/ [REDACTED]

P.S. Can you give me information about communist infiltration in the theological schools & The National Council of Churches?

EX-107





Dear Sir,
 I would like to obtain several recent copies of the communist paper, "The Daily Worker". You may I do this? I'm interested in their knowledge of their attitude toward this election.

I am also interested in the attack Senator Joseph McCarthy made on the Protestant clergy. I'd like all the information I can get. I am most anxious to hear from you.
 Thank you.

Sincerely,



P.S. Can you give me information about communist infiltration in the theological school & The National U.S. CORRESPONDENCE

REC 45

100-50 867-101

November 10, 1964

EX-101

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of November 3rd has been received.

With respect to your inquiries, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Therefore, I trust you will understand why I am not in a position to comment along the lines you have suggested and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 6
NOV 10 1964
COMM-FBI

NOV 10 9 17 PM '64
FBI
FBI COMM

[Handwritten signature]

Enclosures (4)
4/17/62 Internal Security Statement
4/1/61 LEB Introduction

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufile's.

DTP:dll (3)

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten checkmark]

[Handwritten initials]

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Bishop
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. Felt
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Mr. Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

63 NOV 10 1964 TELETYPE UNIT

TRUE COPY

Nov. 3, 1964

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Can you enlighten me any concerning the
National Council of Churches?

What does it support? What is its purposes?
Who are some of the members endorsing it?

I have heard that members of it are known to
be communist; do you know?

Will appreciate any information you can give.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

u

REC 45 / 10 " 50867 +

FX-101

S-ETP

Dear Mr. Dudge,

Can you enlighten me on the National Council of Churches? What does it support? What are its purposes? Who are some of the members?

I have heard that members of the Klan to be commended, do you think you can give me any information on this subject?

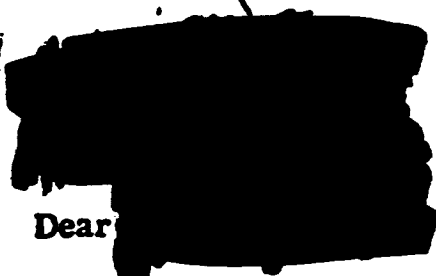
[REDACTED]

11/11/64
ad 11/11/64
more
11/11/64

November 6, 1964

REC-51

NOV 6 10 29 AM '64
FBI
RECEIVED READING ROOM



Dear

Your letter of November 2nd, with enclosure, has been received.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. In view of this, I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment concerning the National Council of Churches nor can I suggest a source where you could obtain the information you desire. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have information in our files pertaining to the subject of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

M. J. [unclear]

MAILED 4
NOV - 6 1964
COMM-FBI

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent.
WAM:dll (3) Enclosed envelope being utilized in reply.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Bishop
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. Felt
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

edw

✓

Winn

*AMM
P. J.*

NOV 10 1964 MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

TRUE COPY

2 Nov 1964

To Who Ever Can Tell Me---

Sir---

Would you please tell me if the National Council of Churches has been following the communist party line? Have heard that it is and I'd like to know for sure. Is there any book or something on the subject. Am enclosing a stamped-addressed envelope and hope to hear from your office if at all possible.

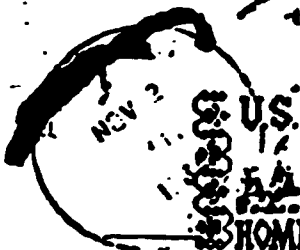
Thank you so much.

Sincerely



REC- 51

21 NOV 9 1964



CORRESPONDENCE

2 Nov 1974

To: Mr. [unclear] Can Tell Me —

Sir —

Would you please tell me if the National Council of Churches has been following the Communist Party line? Have heard that it is and I'd like to know for sure. Is there any book or something on the subject.

Am enclosing a stamped-addressed envelope and paper.

I have from your office if all possible.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely,



COPY TO [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]

November 5, 1964

REC-3 700-30869-117

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter was received on November 2nd and I want to thank you for the kind remarks you made concerning me. President Johnson's Executive Order waiving mandatory retirement in my behalf was indeed an honor, and I will do everything in my power to merit the trust he has placed in me.

REC'D - INADVISABLE
NOV 4 5 19 PM '64

Concerning the inquiry regarding the National Council of Churches, I want you to know that I have never made any public statement indicating that this organization has or has not been infiltrated by the communists. A sentence from a statement I made on March 26, 1947, before the House Committee on Un-American Activities has been taken out of context and quoted widely by opponents of the National Council of Churches. I am enclosing a copy of page 12 of this statement wherein I have underlined the pertinent sentence.

NOV 5 3 06 PM '64
READING ROOM

MAILED 4
NOV - 5 1964
COMM-FBI

The book, "None Dare Call It Treason," by John Stormer contains an ambiguous and misleading statement regarding the National Council of Churches on page 27. The paragraph in question states, "The National Council of Churches, its subordinate organizations, and the leaders of many of its affiliated denominations and their publications consistently parallel or follow the Communist Party line, as exposed by J. Edgar Hoover." In rereading this paragraph, I am sure you will see that I have made no statement whatever regarding the National Council of Churches. It is the author's opinion that their leaders parallel the Communist Party line. The Communist Party line has, of course, been exposed by the FBI as is our duty as protectors of the internal security of this Nation.

The author in footnote 17, Chapter 7, pertaining to the above quotation has made reference to an article prepared by me entitled "The

- 1 - Mr. Sullivan - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Belmont - Enclosure

WAM:mc (5)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

[REDACTED]

Communist Party Line" for the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee in 1961. I am enclosing a copy of this article which makes no reference whatever to the National Council of Churches.

I am also enclosing four articles I have written relating to the communist attack on religion. These publications clearly state my views on this topic.

The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In keeping with that policy, I am sure you will understand why I have made no statement whatever either for or against the book, "None Dare Call It Treason."

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (6)

Page 12 of testimony March 26, 1947 before House Committee on Un-American Activities

Communist Party Line

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

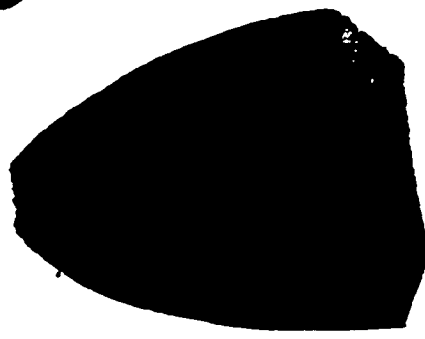
Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism

Time of Testing

Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion

NOTE: Bufiles reflect that [REDACTED] is possibly identical with an individual with the same name who was [REDACTED]. There is no derogatory information concerning this individual and he was sent the Uniform Crime Reports bulletin in 1963. Research used in order to answer the correspondent's questions were extracted from Smith to Sullivan Memo dated June 1, 1964, concerning book review "None Dare Call It Treason," by John A. Stormer. Further research from Evans to Belmont Memo dated September 15, 1964, entitled Communist Infiltration of Churches." (100-50869-1241) and resulting letter to Honorable Vernel R. Jansen, September 17, 1964, (100-50869-1241) concerns an inquiry regarding communist infiltration in the National Council of Churches.

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. DeLoach _____
- Mr. Casper _____
- Mr. Callahan _____
- Mr. Conrad _____
- Mr. Evans _____
- Mr. Gale _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Sullivan _____
- Mr. Tavel _____
- Mr. Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Miss Holmes _____
- Miss Gandy _____



Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:-

The minister of my church has caused a note to be published in the church calendar the subject of which is the book titled, "Lone Dare Call It Treason". Specific reference is made to your appearance before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1947.


Our minister has stated that you wrote a letter to National Council of Churches and made same a public record and the contents of this letter are as follows: "The quotation which you have set forth was taken out of context from remarks I made.... I want you to know that neither on this occasion nor at any other time have I made any statement criticizing the Federal Council of Churches or the National Council of Churches." The note goes on to say... Mr. Hoover goes on to say: "I have never said the National Council of Churches is under the control of Communists."

I have re-read Mr. Storum's book and checked the reference data and can not locate any place in the book where he has made any claim that the Council was, or is, under Communist control. He does write about the remarks of the Assistant Director of your Bureau, Mr. Sullivan. In reference to these remarks Storum, in his book, states: "Sullivan is correct." This was in connection with Sullivan's statement, to the effect the overwhelming majority of clergymen were loyal Americans. He refers to sources claiming about 5% of them are either fellow-travelers, or Communists. And this is an overwhelming

majority.

Could you kindly indicate where in Storum's book he has made the statement causing your letter to be directed to him, or to the Council? Your

REC-3
6 NOV 6 1964



operations have always been conducted on a non-political basis and with an impartiality seldom seen in government activities. Your resistance to the establishment of a National Police Force has been in support of American ideals.

I congratulate you on being held in office beyond your 70th year. It appears you have become a legend within your own lifetime. I am most sincere when I write you in this heartfelt sentiment. Thank you for what you have done for me, a citizen, and for America.

May God bless you and yours.

Appreciatively yours,



EX-103

November 5, 1964

REC-56

50-19-1270



Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of October 31st has been received.

FBI

NOV 5 4 20 PM '64

While I would like to be of assistance to you, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. Information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. In view of this, I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment concerning the book, "None Dare Call It Treason," the National Council of Churches or the other questions you asked. In addition, I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have information in our files regarding the subjects of your inquiry.

I am enclosing some material on the general topic of communism. You may also wish to refer to my books, "Masters of Deceit" and "A Study of Communism." The former was written with the hope that it would help readers gain an insight into the true nature of the communist conspiracy in this country. The latter contains an analysis of international communist practices and contrasts totalitarian methods with life in a free country. These books may be available at your local library.

MAILED 4
NOV 5 1964
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)


(Note & Enclosures Next Page.)

WAM:rsp (3)

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. Felt
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Mr. Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Handwritten signatures and initials, including "U. H. ...", "J. H. ...", and "D. B. ...".



**The U. S. Businessman Faces the Soviet Spy
Time of Testing
"Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism"
Internal Security Statement 4-17-62
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!**

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent.

TRUE COPY


31 October 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
FBI Headquarters
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I would like to know, if the information is available and it is permissible for it to be given out, whether or not this Dr. Blake, present head of the National Council of Churches is listed on the rolls as belonging to the Communist Party, USA. I would also like to know if the National Council of Churches has been investigated as an organization for the principles it upholds and the outcome of this investigation.

If possible, I would also like to be furnished information on any other leading member (individual) of the National Council of Churches that has now or in the past, affiliated with the Communist Party, USA.

I would also like to know if the author of the paper back book "None Dare Call It Treason," John Stormer, has accurately recorded the information in his book concerning Communist infiltration in the United States.

Thank you for any information you can furnish.

REC-56 100-50889-127
Sincerely,

/s/ 

NOV 6 1964

noil

to 11-4 61 7-1

Nov 1964

CORRESPONDENCE

31 October 1954

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
FBI Headquarters
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I would like to know,
if the information is avail-
able and it is permissible
for it to be given out,
whether or not the Dr.
Blake, present head of
the National Council of
Churches is listed on the
rolls as belonging to the
Communist Party.


RESPONSE

would also like to know
of the National Council of
Churches has been investigated
as an organization for
the principles it upholds
and the outcome of this
investigation.

If possible I would
also like to be furnished
information on any other
leading member (individual)
of the National Council of
Churches that has worked in
the past, affiliated with
the Communist Party, USA.
I would also like to
know if the author of
the paper back book

None have called it in person;
John Storm, has accurately
recorded the information in
his book concerning Communist
infiltration in the United
States.

Thank you for any
information you can furnish.

Sincerely,


PA

November 3, 1964

REC 45 100-30747-1219

EX-131

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of October 28th has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Please do not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the group about which you asked. I hope you will understand it is not possible for me to comment in the manner you requested.

Enclosed is some material I trust you will find of interest.

Sincerely yours,

U. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 4
NOV - 3 1964
COMM-FBI

NOV 3 10 08 AM '64
READING ROOM

- Enclosures (4)
- Faith in Freedom
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction

PCF
PCF

NOTE: No derogatory identifiable information regarding correspondent.

EFT:mc
(3)

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Bishop
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. Felt
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Mr. Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT


edm

NOV 12 1964

October 28, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

 Presbytery has appointed me Chairman of a special committee to try to determine and evaluate certain charges which have been leveled against the National Council of Churches. One of the most serious charge is that "the NCC is Communist infiltrated".

Since this charge has been made by many responsible churchmen for a number of years now, I feel sure that the FBI has investigated the Council.

It would be most helpful to the work of Presbyterianism in this area if I could have a letter from you stating the findings of the FBI in regard to the "Communist infiltration" of the NCC. An early reply will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,


WDB:mcp

REC 45

10 NOV 4 1964

7-131

CORRESPONDENCE
Ed

October 29, 1964

RECEIVED
FBI
OCT 29 3 16 PM '64
READING ROOM



Dear [redacted]

Your letter of October 26th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

This Bureau does not have a list such as you mentioned available for distribution. I am, however, enclosing a copy of the list of organizations which have been cited as subversive by the Department of Justice pursuant to Executive Order 10450, along with other literature I trust will be of interest to you. Perhaps you may also wish to secure a copy of "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," prepared and released by the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In it are listed groups and periodicals which have been cited by various state and Federal agencies, and a copy of it can be purchased for seventy cents from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402.

You may also wish to read my books, "Masters of Deceit" and "A Study of Communism." These were written in order to help readers gain an insight into the strategy and tactics of communists, both in this country and abroad. Copies may be available in your local library.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

See Enclosures and Note next page.

DTP:fcl (3)

NOV 6 1964
Enclosures (3)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

FILED
OCT 29 1964
COMM-FBI

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

Handwritten initials and signatures: J.P.F., B.M.M., f./i.


Enclosures (5)

List of subversive organizations

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

4/1/61 LEB Intro

4/17/62 Internal Security statement

"Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism"

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.



CIVIL DEFENSE

Oct 26, 1964

Mr J Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25 DC

MW 8-

Dear Mr Hoover

Recently we had the pleasure of hearing Mr Philbrick, (the man who led three lives) speak to our Supper Club in [redacted] He was most interesting and brought us a very sobering message.

One thing he mentioned that interested me very much was the possible subversive influence within the organization known as the National Council of Churches.

I am an Episcopalian and have just read a news release that our Church, meeting in Conference in St Louis was working on a multi-million dollar reallocation of funds with several other church groups AND the National Council of Churches.

Can you give me any information regarding the National Council of Churches and whether it has been influenced by this communistic movement that is so wide spread in our Country.

Can you also give me a list of any official releases relative to this subversive action in our Country that would help me in my work as Civil Defense Director and in bringing this information to our people.

d

Wh at ever help you can give me will be appreciated.

Very truly,

[Redacted signature block]

100-5086912

5 NOV 3 1964

*Index 10/29/64
DTP: fel mmd*

61-11 11-11-64

EX-101

CORRESPONDENCE

239

October 29, 1964

REC-16

100-1-1007



Dear

Your letter of October 26th has been received.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

REC'D - READING ROOM
FBI
OCT 29 4 27 PM '64

Information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. In view of this, I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment concerning the organizations and literature you mentioned in your letter. In addition, I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have information in our files regarding the subjects of your inquiry. I am enclosing some material on the general topic of communism which you may find of interest.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 4
OCT 29 1964
COMM-FBI

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
"Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism";
Time of Testing
Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion
The Communist Menace
WAM:cal
(3)

NOTE next page

Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
Bishop
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes

NOV 10 1964
com

Jm

Handwritten initials and a circled mark.

NOTE: Correspondent could not be identified in Bufiles.

TRUE COPY

Oct. 26, 1964

**J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.**

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Will you please state, as of today, is the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. (National Council of Churches of Christ in America, one and the same organization) a communist front organization or in any way infiltrated with communism?

Is it true that the Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible copyrighted by the National Council of Churches in the U. S. A. is influenced by communist thinking and when this translation of the Bible is used, is the literature leaning to communism with out the reader being aware of this fact?

If church and Sunday school literature that comes from either or both these sorceres is used in the church, is the communist cause going to be helped?

What are the communist standings, if any, in connection with literature published by the Christian Board of Publication, Box 179, St. Louis, Missouri and The Standard Publishing Company, Cincinnati, Ohio Besides answering the above questions will you please send me a copy (if any are printed) of all church publishing companyes that are known to be communist front organizations or leaning toward communist thinking.

I do most sincerely thank you for you help in these matters.

Yours truly,



100-5-1-12-1
5 NOV 23 1964

Oct. 26, 1964

J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Will you please state, as of today,
is the National Council of Churches of
Christ in the U. S. A. (National Council of
Churches of Christ in America, one and
the same organization) a communist
front organization or in any way
infiltrated with communism?

Is it true that the Revised Standard
Version of the Holy Bible copyrighted
by the National Council of Churches in
the U. S. A. is influenced by communist
thinking and when this translation
of the Bible is used, is the literature
leading to communism without the
reader being aware of this fact?

If church and Sunday school
literature that comes from either
or both these sources is used in the
Church, is the communist cause going
to be helped?

CORRESPONDENCE m77

1/20/64
10/26/64

—What are the communist standings,
if any, in connection with literature
published by the:

Christian Board of Publication

Box 179

St. Louis, Missouri

and

The Standard Publishing Company
Cincinnati, Ohio

Besides answering the above questions
will you please send me a copy
(if any are printed) of all church publishing
companies that are known to be
communist front organizations or
leaning toward communist thinking.

I do most sincerely thank you
for your help in these matters.

Yours truly,



October 28, 1964

REC 81

1266



Dear

I received your letter of October 23rd, with enclosure, and want to thank you for your generous remarks concerning my administration of the FBI. It is hoped our future endeavors will continue to merit your support and approval.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Therefore, I trust you will understand why this Bureau has not issued statements along the lines you have indicated and it is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

It was thoughtful of you to forward me a copy of the pamphlet you prepared and I am enclosing literature which I hope will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 4
OCT 28 1964
COMM-FBI

- Enclosures (4)
- Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
- 4-1-61 LEB Intro
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement

NOTE: No derogatory information appears in Bufiles concerning correspondent and no correspondence has been exchanged with him. Reverend per title on enclosed pamphlet.

DTP:66 (3)
MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

RECEIVED READING ROOM OCT 30 3 47 PM '64

Decker

*adm
B.J.*

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____



October 23, 1964

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

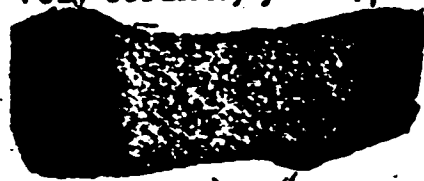
First, let me express my own personal appreciation for the outstanding contribution which you have made to our country through your service in the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Your leadership has been robust and courageous, and I am personally grateful for the way in which you have stood rock-ribbed for justice and righteousness, and for the way in which you have emphasized the responsibility of home and parents in strengthening the moral fiber of our nation.

Criticism of the National Council of Churches is increasing among the lay people of our churches. I am one who has always favored membership in the Council, and have spoken and written in its defense. I am enclosing a revised copy of an address which I gave to our own congregation back in 1960.

The enemies of the Council keep referring to what the F.B.I. has had to say about the National Council. These statements are rather fragmentary and seldom supported with precise quotations. It would be very helpful to me, and I am sure to the congregation which I serve if we could have in print judgments for criticisms of the Council from your Bureau. If someone on your staff could furnish this information, I would deeply appreciate it.

With sincerest good wishes, I am

Very cordially yours,



EXP. PROC.
OCT 26 1964

act. 10-21-64
WME:md

ENCLOSURE

REC 8

OCT 26 1964

WHAT ABOUT THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES?

~

by
WILLIAM M. ELLIOTT, JR.
Pastor

~

HIGHLAND PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DALLAS, TEXAS

100-50869-1266

FOREWORD

The material in this leaflet formed the basis of two addresses delivered in the Highland Park Presbyterian Church, Dallas on successive Wednesday evenings, May 18 and 25, 1960. The addresses were presented as part of a series on the general subject, Questions People Are Asking. The material is offered here in revised form in response to numerous requests.

W. M. ELLIOTT, JR.

September 1, 1964

What About the National Council of Churches?

In recent months a good deal has been said and written about the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., most of it derogatory. Quite naturally many are concerned and are asking: What About the National Council of Churches?

Since so many in other fields of endeavor have presumed to speak freely and at some length on this subject, it seems right and proper that those of us who are more deeply involved in ecclesiastical matters should also speak — not so much collectively through pronouncements, as individually and informally to our own congregations. This I propose to do here. You certainly have a right to know what your own pastor thinks about this subject, and I believe I have the right and the duty to tell you.

There are a number of things which should be said, which are not being said, and certain information made available which is not known by the average member of the average church.

In what I say I shall be speaking only for myself, but I shall try to reflect the general point of view of our branch of the Presbyterian fellowship as expressed from time to time by statements and actions of its highest court, the General Assembly.

I.

There is needed very badly, it seems to me, a factual and descriptive statement setting forth the history, nature and functions of the National Council, and this is what I propose to do first. In doing so, I shall pose certain questions and then try to answer them. Necessarily these answers must be brief.

First, what is the National Council of Churches? It is a fellowship of 31 independent national denominational bodies who desire to pool their resources to accomplish their common tasks. The National Council is not a Church; it is a Council of Churches which exist independently and are members by their own deliberate choice. The National Council is not something above or apart from its member churches. It is the churches themselves working and serving together. It is the churches themselves doing those things which they can do better together than any could possibly do separately.

In the present membership of the Council are most of the major historic bodies of American Christianity except the Roman Catholic. (The only large bodies of Protestant Christians not in the Council are the Southern Baptist Convention and the Missouri Synod of the Lutheran Church.) These 31 communions have a total membership of around 40,000,000. In addition, some 40 communions or boards and agencies of communions, which are not full members of the Council, cooperate in one or more of the Council's activities. 73 Christian bodies then, have some working relationship with the National Council of Churches.

How did the NCC come into existence? It came into existence by the action of independent churches themselves, including our own. In 1950 a carefully drawn Constitution was officially ratified by the highest courts of the member churches. Prior to 1950 there were various inter-denominational agencies at work in cooperative efforts for the accomplishment of common tasks. The National Council combined these former agencies into one agency. The Presbyterian Church in the United States officially became a member of the NCC in 1950 through the action of its General Assembly, the highest court of the Church.

What is the relationship of the National Council of Churches to the former Federal Council of Churches? The NCC is the result of a merger on November 29, 1950 of the former Federal Council of Churches, the International Council of Christian Education, the Foreign Missions Conference of North America, and several other inter-denominational agencies, each with a long history of effective Christian cooperation. Whereas the Federal Council had been largely concerned with problems of Christian social ethics, the National Council has included within it many other interdenominational interests.

What is the basis of membership in the Council? "Membership is open to communions which are constituted as autonomous bodies, possess a history that demonstrates permanency and stability, have an established order of government and ministry, and acknowledge Jesus Christ as Divine Lord and Savior." The preamble of the Constitution of the Council reads as follows: "In the providence of God, the time has come when it seems fitting more fully to manifest oneness in Jesus Christ as Divine Lord and Savior by the creation of an inclusive co-operative agency of the Christian Churches of the United States of

America." The membership of the Council is open to all churches which declare their acceptance of this faith if approved by a two-thirds vote of the communions represented and voting at any regular meeting of the General Assembly of the Council.

Do laymen have representation in the Council? Yes. The General Assembly of the Council (which meets every three years) has 734 delegated representatives — 490 of whom are clergymen and 244 are laymen. The General Board (which meets three times a year) has 260 representatives — 165 of whom are clergymen and 95 are laymen. In specific programs and general policies, the Council is supervised and governed by representatives of the communions that comprise it — 2,763 laymen and women and 2,670 clergymen. The much discussed Fifth World Order Study Conference held in Cleveland, Ohio in 1958 was composed of 515 conferees — two-thirds of whom were laymen from 37 states and the District of Columbia. The chairman was a layman, the Honorable Ernest A. Gross, a New York attorney.

What are the basic organizational features of the NCC? The council is governed by the official representatives — ministers, laymen and women — of the 31 denominations which comprise it. The General Assembly meets every 3 years and acts as a central body of inter-denominational decision. The General Board of the Council meets three times each year, and is responsible for the policies and programs of the Council. It reports regularly to each of the denominations, and is subject to their review.

How is the National Council financed? The Council makes no financial assessments, but is wholly dependent upon voluntary contributions from member churches and from individual donors, corporations and foundations. The Council's funds come from the following sources: About 61% is contributed by denominations, local churches, and related organizations; another 12% consists of gifts from individuals, corporations and foundations; approximately 26% is derived from gross sales of Council materials; and 1% comes from investments.

The National Council is but one of several Inter-Church agencies to which our denomination contributes through its benevolent budget. Others in this group are: The Lord's Day Alliance, Religion in American Life, The American Bible Society

and The World Council of Churches. Our denomination's Permanent Committee on Inter-Church Relations recommends to the General Council of our Church an amount for the support of each of these causes. The General Council studies this recommendation and in turn recommends to the General Assembly a budget in which these various Inter-Church agencies are included. This budget, when approved by the General Assembly, is sent down to the Synods, Presbyteries and local congregations. The Highland Park Presbyterian Church of Dallas contributed to the NCC in 1963 a total of \$74.81, out of a total benevolent giving of \$499,000.00.

Who selects those who represent our Presbyterian Church, U. S. on the Council? Our church has 19 people representing us on the Council — 10 laymen and women, and 9 clergymen, and these are named by the General Assembly. Their names appear on pp. 14 and 15 of the Minutes of the 1964 meeting of the General Assembly.

How does the NCC accomplish its work? The program of the Council is carried on by four Divisions — Christian Education, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Christian Life and Work; by three Central Departments — Evangelism, Church World Service, Broadcasting and Films; and by two General Departments — United Church Men and United Church Women. The following agencies and boards of our branch of the Presbyterian fellowship are related to the Council departments and share in its program: The General Council, the Board of World Missions, the Board of Church Extension, the Board of Christian Education, and the Board of Women's Work.

Are the individual denominations bound by the pronouncements of the National Council? No. The official pronouncements of the Council are formulated by the duly elected representatives of the churches which make up the Council. They are discussed in open debate and represent group opinion. Any denomination represented in the Council may dissent from the pronouncements, and the dissenting vote is made a matter of record and released to the public along with the pronouncements. Hence, we may be officially disassociated from any action with which our denominational representatives are in disagreement, and thus do not give tacit approval to it by virtue of our membership in the Council. This has been made clear in a report from the National Council published in the minutes of

the 95th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States (p. 155), which reads as follows: "The General Board calls to the attention of its Constituent Communion and their members that when it approves a pronouncement, it does so on the authority given to it by its constituent Communion according to the Constitution of the National Council of Churches. It is clear, however . . . that the constituent Communion or any of their members have full right and responsibility to protest and to differ when their own convictions, under the authority of the Scriptures illumined by the Holy Spirit vary from the Council's pronouncements."

You will be interested in the following action taken by the General Assembly of our church in May 1959: "The General Assembly unequivocally opposes the atheistic dictatorship and other evils of Communism, whether in recognized Soviet Russia or in unrecognized Red China. The General Assembly deplors the misunderstandings resulting from publicity of the Fifth World Order Study Conference at Cleveland, Ohio, November, 1958 . . . The General Assembly registers its disapproval to the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. of the action taken by the World Order Study Conference, when they proposed that Red China be granted diplomatic recognition by the United States Government and that it be admitted to the United Nations."

Often the statement is made in press reports that the Council, in a certain action, represents 40,000,000 Protestants. This is unfortunate, for it simply is not true. The Council does not presume to speak for individual members of the constituent churches. This impression may be the fault of the public relations department of the Council, it could be the fault of a press reporter who does not understand the organizational set-up and purpose of the Council. The 1960 General Assembly of our denomination said: "It should be pointed out that the NCC is not authorized, by its own admission, to speak *for* its member churches, but rather, from time to time, it does speak *to* them, and to our society. We feel that the Council's prophetic voice is very much needed in our day, but like any prophetic voice, it must be weighed and evaluated by the individual Christian conscience."

The 1964 meeting of our General Assembly adopted the following recommendations of one of its standing committees: "We

recommend that the General Assembly instruct our representatives to the NCC to continue to convey our concern that some activities of the Commission on Religion and Race are ill advised, and that in the future the Commission consider the conscience of local ministers and sessions and consult with and seek to work more closely with local ministers, councils of churches and dedicated Christians, as we believe this course offers a far better way of solving our racial tensions.

"The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. declares that the policies, activities and pronouncements of the Commission on Religion and Race should be interpreted as representing the policies, activities and pronouncements of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. to the extent, and only to the extent, that the same are consistent with previously approved action and policy of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States." (See p. 83 of Assembly Minutes).

What is the procedure by which denominational groups or member churches respond to an action of the NCC? The National Council is wholly responsible to the member churches. Any pronouncement, recommendation or program proposal made by a study conference, by a division or department of the Council, by its General Board or General Assembly, is referred to the proper official body of the respective member churches for study and action. Once official approval is given by, say, our General Assembly or by one of our official boards or agencies, the NCC proceeds to promote and develop the programs thus approved. Unless and until such official authorization is forthcoming, the Council does not presume to act for any member Church nor for all of them together.

What powers do the member churches delegate to the NCC? No legislative powers whatsoever, and no executive powers save as these are specifically authorized by an official action of the appropriate policy-making and legislative bodies of the churches. The member churches authorize the NCC to coordinate the activities and interests of the respective churches through the various boards and commissions of the Council, to conduct collaborate studies — the results of which may then be referred to the churches for consideration and action — to undertake promotional and educational programs of common interest to the churches, and to provide facilities for the collaboration and cooperation of the member churches in Christian

Education, in pastoral services, in Christian social concerns, in Christian missions, in inter-church world service, and in the discussion of problems of Christian unity.

And finally, why does our Presbyterian Church, U.S. belong to the NCC? *First* of all, because the Presbyterian Church is deeply interested and committed to the ecumenical movement and the cause of Christian cooperation. Not all in our church to be sure, but the church as a whole is so committed. *Second*, because the NCC affords the only really representative opportunity for inter-denominational cooperation and ecumenical action at the national level; and *third*, because we can use the facilities and the resources of the Council without surrendering any part of our autonomy and independence as a denomination.

II.

Most of the criticism leveled against the National Council relates to the work of one of its four major divisions — the Division of Christian Life and Work, for the reason that this particular division has under its purview the following fields of Christian concern: Racial and Cultural Relations, Religious Liberty, International Affairs, Social Welfare, and Church and Economic Life. Some individuals may find fault with the activities of other divisions and service units, but the bulk of the criticism, as I hear it and read it, has to do with this division of Christian Life and Work.

There are not a few Protestant Christians in this country who feel that corporate religious groups ought not to have any direct concern with the un-Christian aspects of our present social order. The Church, they say, ought to limit its activities to matters of personal faith and evangelism, and not have anything directly to do with such menacing social evils as racial injustice, war, alcoholism, juvenile delinquency, divorce, or poverty. It is because the NCC has attempted to apply the Christian religion in these areas that harsh accusations have been hurled.

These critics have said that while the Church and its Councils have a right to speak, they should confine their speaking to purely doctrinal or ecclesiastical matters — "legitimate church purposes", as one local writer calls them — and should leave all social, political or economic issues alone. They contend that any attempt to speak concerning the application of the Christian faith

and ethic is not the legitimate concern or responsibility of organized Church groups, and especially the clergy. Religion is a "personal" matter, and should not attempt to give group consideration to the application of the Christian gospel in these important areas of our common life.

Now of course, this is a matter of judgment and opinion. I may disagree heartily with what is said by this Division of the National Council, or by its General Board or Study Conferences, but I see no reason why a responsible group of Christian men and women (lay and clergy) should not meet and talk together regarding some of the crucial problems confronting America and the world in these days, and, if they desire, make pronouncements about them. Whenever Christianity and its implications are divorced from the practical issues of everyday life and thought, we are in a bad way.

Our own church, through its various courts, has not hesitated to speak out on a number of such issues. Our church courts (Assembly, Synods, Presbyteries) have had something to say from time to time on a number of important moral and social issues such as: Marriage and Divorce, Crime, Alcoholism, War, Racial Discrimination, Religious Liberty, Pornography, etc. Some excellent statements have been prepared and presented to the Assembly dealing with these problems. For the most part these statements have been received simply as information, and sent down to the churches for study. A minority of our people have not been happy about this, but a very large majority have felt that it was incumbent upon the Church so to speak.

The Bible certainly does not keep quiet on social issues. One has only to read the Old Testament prophets and the four Gospels to see how much the Scriptures have to say on practical human relations. I for one must uphold the right and duty of the churches and of their Councils to study and comment upon issues of human concern, however controversial they may be. I must also resist all effort to "muzzle" the preachers, and all efforts to discourage full freedom of discussion. These questions are freely discussed by other corporate groups in this country; why not then by the Church? The fact that some issues are "controversial questions upon which sincere Christians are sincerely divided" does not, it seems to me, prove that they are "off limits" for Church groups, and ought not to be studied by them. And let me comment further that simply because a matter has been taken

into the political arena does not mean that it is no longer a moral issue.

It is inevitable that many will not agree with certain statements by church bodies. The full meaning of the Gospel in its application to life's problems will always involve differences of opinion, and will sometimes create opposition on the part of some very good and sincere people. But must the Church always reflect only the conventional outlook of the average church member? Is it not her responsibility to seek the mind and will of Christ in all human affairs whether that is conventional or not?

But having said all this, I would go on to state that when any corporate church group presumes to speak on these controversial matters, it should exercise great restraint and care and should have a sound Biblical and theological basis for what it says. The Christian confrontation of social, economic and political issues is an exceedingly difficult matter, where much technical knowledge, much statesmanship and much humility are needed. In this area of Christian responsibility the greatest wisdom, the greatest competence and the most mature judgment are absolutely essential.

Any church group should keep constantly in mind that while these pressing problems are a legitimate concern of the Church, they are not her *first* concern. Her function is primarily spiritual in nature. Writing on the role of the Church today, in which he stressed the Church's right and duty to speak on social questions, Dr. Robert J. McCracken said: "The Church's first business now as always is to be the Church. It exists to turn men's hearts and thoughts and wills toward God and to enable them to see their life and their institutions in the light of God. It exists to inspire prayer and worship and faith and through them to send men and women of character and integrity into the everyday life of the world . . . This is the primary task to which the Church is called and for which it is specially equipped. It is a task which no other organization is discharging or can discharge. It is an agency for the making and remarking of character. It preaches first and foremost a gospel of moral and spiritual regeneration."²

This is very true, and the Church should never allow herself to get sidetracked from this primary function. It is so easy for religious groups to become so absorbed in the area of human

²Questions People Ask, pp. 173, 174. Harper & Bros., 1951

relations that they forget or neglect the area of God-man relations. It is, as I see it, a matter of holding things in proportion. It is possible for certain Christians to overemphasize these matters, as important as they are, and so to press for their own views of social theory as to break the fellowship and hinder the other and primary work of the Church.

One further comment along this line. While the Church may be right in the enunciation of Christian principles, it can be faulty in its application or implementation of those principles. It is one thing to enunciate principles; it is quite another thing to say exactly how those principles apply. Actively to lobby for the passage of specific legislation is, in my judgment, an unwise activity for any corporate church group to engage in.

As I bring this part of my address to a close, let me quote from a statement issued by our Assembly's Permanent Committee on Inter-Church Relations. This statement was prepared while I was serving as Moderator of the General Assembly, and was signed by me as a member of that committee. It was presented to the 1958 General Assembly meeting in Charlotte, N. C. "Your Committee shares in the deep concern of many over the questionable nature of some of the National Council's pronouncements on social, economic, and political questions. We are in agreement that the Christian faith must be announced not in principle alone, but must be applied to the concrete realities of the sinful situation in which we find ourselves. For that reason, we do not quarrel with the efforts of the National Council to relate the faith to all aspects of our individual and corporate life. It is all too easy at times, however, for religious leaders to make pronouncements on intricate questions in which they are amateurs, and to go beyond the persuasive role of the church in confronting the world with the gospel by becoming political lobbyists or partisan advocates. We are convinced that, with all good intentions, the Council has on some occasions succumbed to this temptation, and has thereby embarrassed the members of its constituent churches. As a church, we deplore this. Although we feel that we ought to maintain our fellowship in the National Council, we also feel that the Council should be more considerate of the constituent members by avoiding extreme public pronouncements which may compromise the role of the church as a witness to the gospel above party, class, or social theory."

III.

The charge has been made that the NCC is communistic. This charge is expressed in several ways, depending upon the person making the charge. Some state rather categorically that the Council is communistic. Others aver that while the Council may not be communistic, it is obviously "soft toward communism." Some critics say that certain of the Council's leaders are sympathetic to communism — that they are "pink" if not out-and-out Communists. Still others put it this way: the pronouncements of the Council on social, economic, racial and political issues "follow the communist line". This is, of course, a serious charge, and I'd like to say something about it.

Let me state positively and unequivocally that the National Council of Churches as such is in no sense communistic, or a friend of communism. The National Council is and always has been unalterably opposed to communism. Again and again it has reiterated its unequivocal stand against this sinister ideology. The General Board of the Council, meeting in Seattle in June 1959 reaffirmed "the consistent position of the National Council of Churches expressed in many official actions opposing the evils, the violence and the violation of human rights by communist and other tyrannies." At this same meeting the General Board expressed "profound sorrow for the people of Tibet suffering under Chinese communist oppression" and called for "increased aid from our churches in humanitarian ministries to those who have fled as refugees."

Before his retirement as General Secretary of the Council, Dr. Roy G. Ross sent a letter to members of the Congress indicating the unqualified opposition of the Council to communism. This letter was approved by the titular heads of the majority of the communions holding membership in the Council. The Congressmen who received this letter read into the Congressional Record over 36 pages of testimony on Religious freedom, supporting the Churches as the greatest bulwark against communism.

The General Council of our denomination, meeting in Atlanta, Georgia a few years ago stated that "it is convinced that all accusations made against the National Council implying that it is 'Red' and 'subversive' are without foundation whatsoever."

But there are those who will say: "Maybe the Council itself is not a communist front, but some of its leaders are certainly guilty

of being members of the communist front organizations." It is not my responsibility here to try to defend in detail each individual who is being so criticized. He will have to answer for himself. I do know some of these men personally, having been associated with them in church conferences and in preaching missions, and I must say regarding these particular individuals whom I know personally, that I have no question at all concerning their loyalty to this country and its democratic way of life. They are loyal Americans and Christian gentlemen of the highest type.

I cannot refute what is being said concerning the nature of the organizations with which certain religious leaders have been associated, and I have no slightest desire to protect, excuse, gloss over, or condone any real guilt or any mistakes in judgment. Here again the accused will have to answer for themselves, and the proper governmental agencies will have to act. But in the interest of truth and fairness, I would point out that it is not made clear in the accusations which I have read that these religious leaders are still connected with these "questionable" organizations. The fact that an individual was once affiliated with a particular movement or organization does not mean that he still is. Nor is it made clear by the critics of the NCC that these organizations were suspect at the time these individuals were first connected with them. Let us make sure in dealing with a matter as serious as this that we are scrupulously fair, and that we have all the facts in the case.

A leading clergyman of our country was labeled as subversive by an anonymous propaganda sheet because he participated in a rally of "Soviet-American Friendship." This sheet did not indicate however, that this rally was held in November 1942 when Russia was our ally in arms, and that the same meeting was attended by Cordell Hull, Secretary of State; Jesse Jones, Secretary of Commerce; Owen D. Young; Senators Kapper and McKellar, Edward Stettinius, Jr., and other high-ranking patriotic leaders. Nor did it mention the fact that this rally was sponsored by Senator Saltonstall and Christian A. Herter, later Secretary of State.

In response to the charge that the NCC is led by men, some of whom are disloyal to our form of government and are set to undermine it, our Assembly's Permanent Committee on Inter-Church Relations issued this statement in 1958 which I personally approved and signed: "This charge is a grievous one, indeed,

and one which impugns the motives of men in a very serious way. Your Committee cannot appraise motives, but at this point is willing to accept the judgment of our own denominational representatives who work closely with the leaders of the National Council, and are forthright in estimating their integrity. One of our representatives on the General Board, Dr. John S. Land,² has stated: "During my service on the General Board of the National Council I have had the opportunity of knowing rather intimately the officers of the Council, the leaders of the Divisions, and the members of the General Board. In addition to attending the meetings of the General Board, I have served on a great number of committees, by which I have gotten to know most intimately the ministers and laymen in the top organization. I can truthfully say I have never detected any evidence of disloyalty to our Lord or our country on the part of anyone. To me it has been a heartening thing to see our cooperative Christian enterprise in America handled by men of the stature and soundness of those chosen by the respective denominations".

In a syndicated column dated December 17, 1957, Fulton Lewis, Jr. made several charges against Dr. Edwin T. Dahlberg, president of the NCC. Following is a statement from Dr. Dahlberg as to his position regarding these accusations:

"In reply to questions that have been raised in response to the Fulton Lewis attack on me as President of the National Council of Churches, I can conscientiously say that I have no Communistic sympathies, have never had any connection with the Communist party, and have never signed a petition which I knew to be sponsored by a Communist front group. Whenever I have suspected a petition to be by a Communist front group—and like many other clergymen I have received dozens of them—I have rejected it. I would not knowingly lend my support to any group which was an agency of the Communist party, since I am fully aware of the fact that Communism has as its ultimate aim the crushing of all our liberties.

"I did sign some petitions during the war period when Russia and the United States were military allies and during the 30's when as Americans generally we were not so alert to subversive Communistic activities as we are now. But I

²Dr. Land was for many years the honored pastor of the St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church in New Orleans, and is now Associate Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Houston.

repeat, I have never signed a petition in behalf of a Communist front organization when I knew it to be such.

"As for the Morton Sobell case, I interceded in that instance purely on the pastoral and not the political level. Mrs. Sobell came to my study, in tears for her children, and in a spirit of Christian compassion I wrote in behalf of a fair and just consideration of his case as I would write to the judge in behalf of an alcoholic or any other offender against the law whose wife came to me to make a plea for her husband.

"I trust that the above statement will clarify whatever questions may have arisen as a result of the Fulton Lewis article referred to."

/s/ Edwin T. Dahlberg

It would not be at all surprising, of course, if the communists did try very hard to infiltrate the churches and the clergy. They have tried to infiltrate every other area of American life, so one would naturally expect them to be unrelenting in their efforts to lay their dirty hands on the churches and their leaders. Dr. W. A. Welsh, former pastor of the East Dallas Christian Church, had a fine statement along this line in the Dallas Times Herald on April 24, 1960. Here is what he said: "I should expect the Communist Party to be constantly trying to 'infiltrate' the Protestant Church in America. Certainly, it has tried to infiltrate the newspapers, the movies, the radio-television and the legal profession — and, if the Church and its clergy were left off the list, this could only mean that the Communists did not think either had any influence whatsoever on American life and thought. Since preachers are human, too, and since newspapermen and actors and lawyers have all to some extent been "taken in" by the Communist line, I would not be surprised if some preachers were also. But I am quite sure their number must be very small."

I would like to make two other comments with respect to the charge that the Council's leaders are communistic, and the first is this: The tendency to call a man "pink" or a "communist sympathizer" simply because he differs with other Americans in his point of view on some debatable social and international problems is manifestly unfair and malicious, and ought to be challenged. Such irresponsible name-calling is reprehensible, to say the least. I disagree heartily with the opinion of some of our ministers and laymen that Communist China should be recog-

nized by our Government and admitted to the United Nations, but to hold to that point of view does not mean *per se* that one is a communist sympathizer. There are a great many loyal Americans who feel that the present world situation calls for such recognition. I personally feel that anyone who champions this view is mistaken in his judgment, but I cannot impugn his motives nor call him "a tool of Moscow."

And one is not necessarily a communist or a "fellow traveler" because he takes a liberal or moderate position on the issue of racial segregation. The implication that those who take such a stand have been "influenced" or "duped" by the communists is just not so, and to contend that it is is manifestly unfair, and I for one deeply resent the slur. I suppose I might be termed a "moderate" on this touchy subject, but I did not get my point of view from the communists. I came to it back in the twenties, not from reading Karl Marx but from reading the New Testament! Let us be exact in our thinking these days, and scrupulously fair in what we say about other Americans with whom we disagree.

My second comment is this: The thing that disturbs me most deeply about all these charges which are being bandied about is that some who make them do so in such a manner as to create an attitude of suspicion and distrust toward all our Protestant clergymen. I am distressed, not to say angered, by the rather glib way in which attacks are being made by certain individuals on the Protestant ministry of our major denominations. And this suggestion that ministers of the Gospel are naive, fuzzy-minded, impractical, starry-eyed visionaries who are so gullible and guileless they cannot recognize atheistic communism when they see it, is simply fantastic. Such undisciplined talk can do a great injustice to our ordained men, and it can do immeasurable harm to this country.

Some clergymen may have been "taken in" by the communist line. Some may have become communists or "fellow travelers," but I am sure that their number is infinitesimal, and it is nothing short of tragic that matters of this kind should be discussed in such a way as to make all clergymen suspect. I listened some time ago to one individual as he attacked certain ministers of some of the major Protestant communions in this country, and not once did he reassure his audience that what he was saying did not relate to the overwhelming majority of our clergymen.

This man wrote something to me in a letter which I wish he had said in the address to which I refer. In a postscript of a letter to me he said: "Let me add that I have always tried to make it clear that the pastors who are fostering causes which we consider undoctinal and un-American make up less than 1% of the Protestant ministry." Well, he didn't make that clear the night I listened to him. Don't you think he should have?

IV.

It is frequently proposed that since we Presbyterians cannot always agree with the actions and pronouncements of some Division of the National Council or of its General Board, our denomination should withdraw immediately from membership in it. May I speak to this?

First, let me acknowledge that the National Council has made mistakes. It is inevitable that it should make mistakes, for it is composed of fallible men and women like ourselves; but is that sufficient grounds for the withdrawal of our membership in this cooperative venture? All religious groups err, for all are composed of sinful human beings. Our own Presbyterian Church, U.S. has sometimes erred, but we have no thought of repudiating membership in it. To do so would mean that we would either cease to be a church member, which would in itself be a great error, or we would unite with some other Christian fellowship which has also made its share of mistakes, and will make mistakes — perhaps some of them serious ones.

So I favor our Church's continued membership in the Council. It is not perfect, but it is made up of representatives of most of the leading Christian bodies of the nation, and it is better to work from within for its improvement than to take a position of isolation where nothing at all can be accomplished. By continuing our membership we can help the Council to become better than it is, and at the same time we can still have a voice that can be heard when we feel that it is in error.

The Presbyterian Church has never, from its inception, been an isolationist church. Presbyterians have never drawn away from other churches. Instead, we have sought a deeper fellowship with all who claim Jesus Christ as God and Savior. We have been in the vanguard of the ecumenical movement all along, and have been among the first to accept membership in local, national, and world councils of Churches. Ours certainly is not

a narrow, sectarian, divisive group, but one which gladly joins hands in every way possible with Christians of other evangelical groups.

These are days when Christians should stand together and pull together. And we can do this without sacrificing anything that we cherish in our particular denominational heritage. Let us contend for our convictions, but let us never lose our sense of kinship with all who love and serve our Christ. We Christians had better hang together, or we may hang separately! When Communism moved into China and Korea it made no nice distinctions between Christians. *All* were suspect, and all who refused to 'knuckle under' were liquidated. *All* missionaries were told to get out, and *all* Christian institutions — churches, schools and hospitals — were taken over 'lock, stock and barrel'.

Whatever its weaknesses and mistakes, the NCC attempts to speak to the world of our essential Christian unity. We desperately need such an organization which symbolizes our solidarity — our common faith in and loyalty to Jesus Christ. We must see to it that the unity of Protestantism is not broken, or its Christian cooperation imperilled. We need the National Council not only as a symbol of our oneness, but also as a means of effectively expressing that oneness. The survival of the Protestant Church as a controlling moral and spiritual influence in modern life depends in large measure upon the willingness of the different evangelical groups to establish and maintain a united front — against bold secularism on the one hand, and against political Romanism on the other. Each of these systems is vigorously assailing those great principles, ideals and values of which Protestantism stands.

The NCC is "the only considerable body which can express our united Protestant voice in this fateful hour in our history. If we were to withdraw from cooperation with this body we would weaken its witness, and we would lose the influence which, under the will of God, we should exert for those things which we believe to be of supreme and abiding value." The General Assembly of our church, meeting in Jacksonville, Florida made the following statement: "The National Council of Churches is certainly not perfect. There is much about it that can and should be improved. But we deplore the unmerited attacks made on the National Council which result inevitably in a distrust and weakening of the Christian witness in our land and throughout the

world. We regard our united work with other Christians as being of paramount importance in today's world and we urge our representatives on the National Council to support, encourage and sustain this vital effort."

Soviet Russia would welcome the weakening of the Churches in this country, and those who make indiscriminate attacks upon the established denominations — who sow the seeds of disharmony and discord among Christians — are unwittingly playing into communist hands. If we got out of the National Council today, we would certainly organize another along the same lines tomorrow, for the simple reason that such a cooperative body is essential and inevitable.

I am for the Council. I am not for all its actions and pronouncements, nor am I for all the points of view expressed by its employed staff and elected officers. With these actions and leaders I often disagree. But I am for the *Council*. It is the best organization of its kind now on the scene, in which we can express our evangelical oneness and in which we can work together for common ends. In no other cooperative body are the opportunities as great for mutual helpfulness. Our own General Assembly has repeatedly reaffirmed its conviction that our Church should remain in the Council in spite of a number of overtures from some presbyteries asking that we withdraw.

The Council has undoubtedly made mistakes, but it has achieved victories and rendered services which the constituent communions could ill afford to do without. In the Council all the member churches pool their knowledge and resources in a spirit of mutual helpfulness. In the Council we learn from one another. It provides channels through which we Presbyterians can work more efficiently and effectively than we could possibly do going it alone. There are many areas of common Christian endeavor which could not be done at all, or could not be done as well, if our Church had no membership in the National Council or the World Council.

I disagree rather strongly with some of the things which the Council has done and is doing, particularly through its new Commission on Religion and Race (The Delta Project, etc.) and have so expressed myself. But when I think of what the Council means to the Boards and Agencies of our own Church, and to our united Protestant witness in so many areas, I cannot conceive of our withdrawing membership. I have been a member

of the Board of World Missions of our Assembly for twenty-six years, and I can testify that the fellowship which we have with other Christian missionary societies through the Division of Foreign Missions has been of inestimable value to our Christian witness around the world.

"Time would fail me to tell" of the many services which the Council renders its member Churches, or of the various advantages which accrue to our own denomination through such joint endeavor. In 1958 our Permanent Committee on Inter-Church Relations prepared and published a pamphlet indicating the many ways in which the various Boards and Agencies of our Assembly work with other churches in the Council and profit by membership in it. The Staff members of our various boards are, through membership in the Council, related to Staff members of similar departments in other churches. Through this mutual association, much is learned which facilitates the work of the various departments of our own church. Through our membership in the National and World Councils of Churches, "our church has an opportunity to contribute, out of the richness of her own life, the resources of her leadership to the larger life of the Church . . . By membership in these councils, our representatives can aid them in self-criticism, and can enrich the life of the whole Church of Christ by sharing the riches of our Church's theological heritage and practical wisdom. To refuse to do this would be to renounce a part of the mission which the Holy Spirit has set before us at this time." For these reasons and many more, it would be, in my judgment, a mistake for us to withdraw from the NCC.

Certain pronouncements on social and political issues get much publicity in the press, so that people gain the impression that this is all that is ever done by the National Council. This is a great pity, but, after all, we cannot determine what the newspapers consider news.

The NCC renders an indispensable service to the churches in the area of Religious Liberty. That is a crucial issue in the world today and I am both surprised and dismayed that so few Protestants seem to have any concern about it. Several years ago now, the Roman Catholic hierarchy brought pressure to bear upon our government to have the State Department deny visas to Protestant missionaries going to Brazil because, they said, Protestant "propaganda" might endanger the good relations ex-

isting between our government and the Brazilian people. Here was a real threat to religious liberty, and had it not been for the timely, united and effective voice of Protestantism speaking through the Council, it is possible that the State Department might have succumbed to this pressure.

Maybe the NCC has spoken at times when it should not have spoken. Maybe it has spoken too often, about the wrong things, and in the wrong way. But there are times when it had better speak, and when religious liberty is at stake is one of those times. If you and I as Protestants are not concerned about this matter we had better be! In our zeal for locking the front door against communism, we must be ever vigilant lest some other totalitarian system slips in through the back door to threaten our freedom. The NCC is the most potent united Protestant voice now available to us, and we had better not silence it!

Some of those who are attacking the NCC most vehemently are against all of the great denominations as well. They have been fighting these and their leaders for years. In their philosophy, and in their theology of the Church, they are independent and divisive. If they succeed in crippling or destroying the National Council, this will not satisfy them, for they live on detraction, denunciation and discord, and will immediately intensify their attacks on other phases of organized church life. These individuals have a reputation for creating disharmony and discord among Christians, and they always oppose any kind of Christian cooperation which they do not or cannot control. They have seized upon certain weaknesses of the Council or its leaders to torpedo the whole Protestant denominational movement in this country.

The National Council of Churches has its unwise tendencies and its weaknesses. These we must faithfully recognize, guard against and correct. As our *Confession of Faith* says, "All synods or councils since the apostles' times, whether general or particular, may err, and many have erred" (p. 169). The National Council is no exception; it too, has erred, and will err. But I cannot see this as just cause for withdrawal from membership in it. If we withdraw from every group which errs, and in which there are convictions and opinions contrary to our own, we would have to withdraw from all connection with the nation, the state, the Church, civic clubs and the individual family unit.

V

In closing, let me indicate certain tendencies which could endanger the life of the NCC and its effectiveness. There is first the tendency for the Council to become a kind of super-church. There is no such idea in the Constitution of the Council, but it may creep in at times if we are not careful. Some may indeed wish to see the creation of such a super-church. They are impatient with the fragmentation of Protestantism in this country, and sincerely desire one organization which shall bring all evangelicals together in a single organic body. This certainly is not the purpose of the Council, and it is not now the purpose of the overwhelming majority of those who participate in its life and work. But there is the temptation that a few, because of their hunger for organizational unity, shall try to lead the Council away from its original purpose and direction.

Another weakness in the Council is the tendency toward an expanding bureaucracy. This is always a threat, and must be resisted. Such a growth of bureaucracy would pyramid the Council's organizational structure until it could become an intolerable financial burden upon the member Churches.

A third weakness of the Council is its tendency to emphasize one phase of its responsibility to the practical eclipsing of all others. The temptation is strong just now, in its zeal for racial justice, for the Council to become so preoccupied with this particular matter that it seems to neglect or to minimize other highly important phases of its Christian responsibility. The race question is very important, but it is by no means the only crucial issue confronting the churches in these days. Would it not be wise for the Council to shift its emphasis from time to time, so that all departments of its work will have the attention, promotion and publicity which they require?

And then there is the temptation for certain individuals who are active in the departments of the Council to use the Council and its facilities to further their own social or political views. The representatives of the member Churches should constantly be on guard against this temptation. Nothing could do the Council more damage than to have it so used by persons who are zealous to promote their own private social or political theories.

This has been a lengthy discussion, but even so I am sure that I have not answered all your questions regarding the National Council of Churches. It is possible, of course, for you to inform yourself concerning the Council and concerning the justice of the charges which have been made, and are being made, against it. I hope you will feel free to write to the headquarters of the National Council regarding any matters which relate to its life and work. It is unjust and unfair to hear only one side of a controversial matter. The accused has a right to be heard. Secure a copy of the Council's Constitution and of its official publications and read them carefully. Address all inquiries to Dr. R. H. Edwin Espy, General Secretary of the National Council of Churches, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, N. Y. 10027. He, or one of his associates, will be glad, I am sure, to try to answer frankly and fairly any question you may wish to ask.

THE DIRECTOR

October 26, 1964

N. P. CALLAHAN

THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD
OCTOBER 22, 1964

APPENDIX

Page A5487. Congressman Colmer, (D) Mississippi, extended his remarks to include a resolution adopted by the Long Beach, Mississippi, Chamber of Commerce condemning the reporting by radio, press, etc., of certain activities in that State. The resolution makes reference to the activities of the National Council of Churches in connection with the sending of student educators into Mississippi. The resolution states "Whereas this action by the National Council of Churches was evidently sanctioned by our Federal Justice Department as they sent special cordons of FBI agents here to protect these student agitators against law abiding Mississippians; - - -" The resolution, in making reference to crime, pointed out that Mississippi has the lowest crime rate in the Nation according to FBI statistics.

- 1 - Mr. Tolson - enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Belmont - enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Mohr - enclosure
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach - enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Rosen - enclosure
- 1 - Mr. W. C. Morrell - enclosure

Vcs/lacra
(10)

- ENCLOSURE -

OCT 27 1964

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-1721-32

RA

REC-16/100-50869-17

October 22, 1964



RECEIVED
READING ROOM
A 24 PM '64

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of October 17th, with enclosure, has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Further, this Bureau does not issue clearances or nonclearances of any type. Therefore, I trust you will understand why this Bureau is not in a position to endorse an organization such as the National Council of Churches or other groups.

In connection with the circular you forwarded, my speeches are a matter of public record and are quoted from time to time. However, their use does not necessarily mean either that this Bureau has or has not "cleared" the manner in which they are employed. For your information I am enclosing a copy of my speech, "The Twin Enemies of Freedom," in order that you may read it in its entirety. The quotation in question appears on page 3 toward the bottom of the first column. I am also sending you other literature which I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 2
OCT 23 1964
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)

1 - Indianapolis - Enclosures (2)

DTP:fc1 (4)

See Enclosures and note next page.

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- DeLoach
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- Felt
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

10/23/64



Enclosures (5)

"Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism"

4/1/61 LEB Introduction

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

4/17/62 Internal Security statement

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

Oct. 17, 1941

Dear Sir:

Please read enclosed article. Is this article the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth or is it partly right or in fact is it proper or not?

My parents are around seventy and my wife and I are forty-eight, we all have been members of the First Methodist Church all our lives. I discovered just recently that our Church belongs to the National Council of Churches and have brought this item before our Church Board as to where it is proper or not. The FBI approval is at the bottom of enclosed article so would like to have your approval or dis-approval as to where the Council of Churches (National) is an American or Anti-American? or is this organization Communist influenced or not?

Your immediate comment will be of great importance!

Yours Truly,

ENC 16

100-50719-13

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

8.7.41

1 - ENCLOSURE

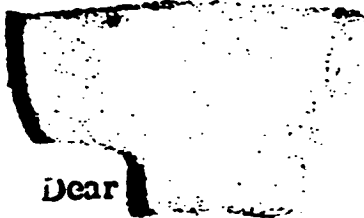
pr

October 22, 1954

REC-15

100-50

RECEIVED
OCT 24 11:31 AM '54



Dear

I received your letter of October 19th and want to thank you for your interest in my books.

With respect to your inquiries, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

This Bureau does not have a list such as you mentioned available for distribution. I am, however, enclosing some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

[Handwritten initials]

Enclosures (4)

Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism
Internal Security Statement, 4-17-62
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
LEB Introduction, 4-61

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DTP:kcf. (3)

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Boardman
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

October 19, 1964

Honorable J Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover;

I am on a committee appointed by our Sunday School Class of male adults and charged with the responsibility of researching the activities of The National Council of Churches of America. We have poured over your books regarding the plan of The Communist Party to infiltrate our American Churches, we have examined the books issued by the Circuit Riders Inc in relation to their compilation of public records of several hundred clergy and lay members of the Council and compared the activities as listed by organizations with the list of cited communist and communist-front organizations shown in the "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" issued by the House Committee of Un-American Activities issued or revised in 1961, and we have also checked those activities and pronouncements with those of the communist party. We are concerned with the results these comparisons show.

We wonder if you are in a position to furnish us with any information regarding this subject in relations to activities and events that have occurred since 1960 and 1961 and up to the current date? Also, if any list of organizations and personnel activities has been released lately? We need help to clarify this picture which in itself seems more or less invisible yet very dangerous. If you can assist us in any way with further knowledge we will surely appreciate it.

sincerely

P.S. Our purpose is to secure adequate information to back up a petition to our session to petition our higher Church Courts to withdraw from the National Council of Churches.

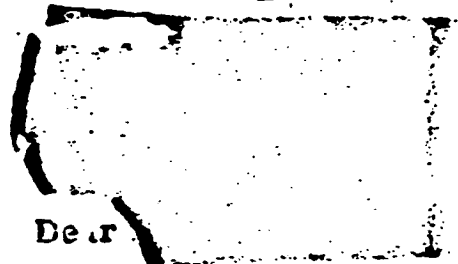
EXP. PROC.

OCT 20 1964

Dh 2

October 19, 1964

100-55 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200



Dear

Your letter of October 12th has been received.

With respect to your inquiries, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches. No source comes to mind to which I might direct you in order to obtain the data you have requested.

With regard to Dan Smoot, he was employed by the FBI as a Special Agent from March, 1942, to June, 1951, when he voluntarily resigned. His personal ventures and his opinions and comments are strictly his own and this Bureau is not in a position to comment on these in any way whatsoever.

Enclosed is some literature which I trust will be of interest.

MAILED 25
OCT 19 1964
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

- Enclosures (5)
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
- Let's Fight Communism Sincerely!
- "Faith in God-Our Answer To Communism"
- "Faith in Freedom"

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DTP:asf (3)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Vertical stamp: OCT 27 1964

Vertical stamp: MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

TRUE COPY

Oct. 12, 1964



Dear Sir,

I am writing to you tonight as an patriotic American who is deeply concerned with the turn of events which concerns the National Council of Churches.

Many charges and counter charges are being made which I believe must be either denied or verified. I would be forever in your debt if you could help me get the facts so that I in some way could help others in their search for truth.

I have some questions that I would like to ask you to answer if it is possible for you to do so. They are:

- 1. What is the background of The National Council of Churches?**
- 2. Is the National Council of Churches under investigation for subversion or has it ever been? If so what was the findings?**
- 3. Has the National Council of Churches ever been under investigation by the House Un-American Activities Committee? If so what were the conclusions Drawn?**
- 4. In your opinion, is the Communist movement in America using the National Council of Churches for subversion?**
- 5. Is Dan Smoot an authentic anti-communist who reports documented facts?**

I would appreciate any information relative to the above subject or any information as to where I can obtain this information.

Sincerely,

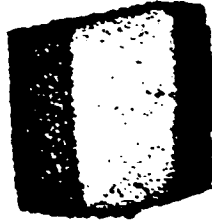
your devoted servant



8-270

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

act 12



Dear Sir,

I am writing to you tonight as an patriotic American who is deeply concerned with the turn of events which concerns the National Council of Churches.

Many charges and unscientific charges are being made which I believe must be either denied or verified. I would be forever in your debt if you could help me get the facts so that I in some small way could help others in their search for truth.

I have some questions that I would like to ask you to answer if it is possible for you to do so. They are:

REC-56 100-50867 1263

1. What is the background of the National Council of Churches?

OCT 26 1964

2. Is the National Council of Churches under investigation for subversion?

419

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

has it ever been? If so what was
the findings?


3. Has the National Council of Churches
ever been under investigation by
the House Un-American Activities Committee?
If so what were the conclusions drawn?

4. In your opinion, is the Communist
movement in America using the National
Council of Churches for subversion?

5. Do you know an authentic anti-
Communist who reports documented
facts?

I would appreciate any information
relative to the above subject or
any information as to where I can
obtain this information.

Sincerely,
your devoted servant



REC- 56 / 100 - 1262 - October 19, 1964



Dear

Your letter of October 13th has been received and I want to thank you for your interest in literature distributed by this Bureau.

With respect to your inquiries, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches and the Circuit Riders, Inc.

I am enclosing a copy of "What Young People Should Know About Communism," along with other literature which includes suggestions all of us can use in combatting the evil of communism. I regret, however, that this Bureau does not have a list available for distribution such as you mentioned. Perhaps you may wish to read my books, "Masters of Deceit" and "A Study of Communism." These were written in order to help readers gain an insight into the strategy and tactics of communists both in this country and abroad. Copies may be available in your local library.

Sincerely yours,

OCT 19 10 06 AM '64
RECEIVED DIRECTOR

MAILED 7
COMM FBI

Enclosures (5)
What Young People Should Know About Communism
"Faith In Freedom"
"In God--Our Answer To Communism"
"Let's Fight Communism Sanely"

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

4-1-61 LEB Introduction

Note Next Page

OCT 19 10 06 AM '64


REC'D... READING ROOM

RECEIVED DIRECTOR

XEROX
OCT 21 1964

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

59 OCT 21 1964



NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Circuit Riders, Inc., is known in Bufiles for its opposition to the National Council of Churches.

October 13, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau Of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

In recent weeks I have become very concerned about an organization "The National Council of Churches for Christ in America". I would like all available information about this organization and its attitude toward communism; is it true that over one-hundred persons in leadership capacity have communist front records or records of service to communist causes? If so, can their names be furnished? I would also like to know if they have a goal or goals that, in any way resembles that of the Communist Party.

Do you have information available on an organization "The Circuit Riders Inc" home base 110 Government Place (Room 925), Cincinnati, Ohio?

I understand you have available a booklet, "What Young People Should Know about Communism". I would appreciate you sending me a copy at your earliest convenience.

From this letter it is no doubt evident that I am not well informed on the subject of communism, therefore any information you might furnish on this subject, including titles of informative books will be appreciated.

MrG-56

OCT-46

RECEIVED

RECOR

CONFIDENCE

October 13, 1964

REF: A



On October 5th I received your letter, with enclosure, and want to thank you for your generous remarks concerning my administration of the FBI. It is hoped our future endeavors will continue to merit your support and approval.

With respect to the copy of the report of the Central Presbyterian Church approved on September 9, 1964, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Further, this Bureau does not issue clearances or non-disclosures of any type. Therefore, I trust you will understand why we have not furnished any information or made an evaluation concerning the National Council of Churches. A representative of the CPUSA talked with church leaders in the past and has explained this Bureau's position along the lines I have described. It is unfortunate, however, that these leaders drew their own conclusions and have erroneously attributed them as emanating from the FBI. It should be emphasized, however, that our inability to furnish information should not be used as a basis for inferring either that we have or have not information in our files relating to these matters.

REC'D-READING ROOM
OCT 13 3 52 PM '64

I am enclosing literature which I trust will be of interest

6
[Redacted box]

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures (4) See NOTE & ENCLOSURES next page.

- 1 - Mobile - Enclosures (2)
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- DTP:lch (7)

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

Enclosures (4)

"Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism"

4-1-61 LEB Intro

4-17-62 Internal Security Statement

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

NOTE: Church leaders in the form of a "Study Council" of the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church met with Assistant Director William C. Sullivan on 2-8-63. Mr. Sullivan explained the Bureau's position to them in regard to religion and communism; however, Mr. Sullivan noted that this group apparently concluded there has been no penetration or influence into religion. They apparently used the FBI's inability to furnish information as the basis for this conclusion.

Mr. Tolson
 Mr. Belmont
 Mr. Mohr
 Mr. DeLoach
 Mr. Casper
 Mr. Callahan
 Mr. Conrad
 Mr. Evans
 Mr. Gale
 Mr. Rosen
 Mr. Sullivan
 Mr. Tavel
 Mr. Trotter
 Tele. Room
 Miss Holmes
 Miss Gandy

October 2, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 Washington, D. C.

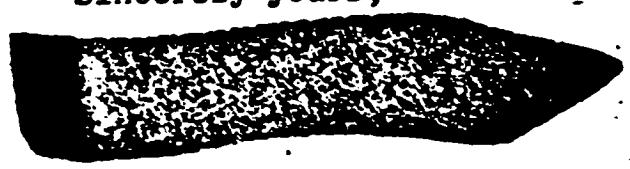
Dear Mr. Hoover:

I always have had and still have great admiration for the thoroughness and impartiality evidenced in the reports issued on behalf the F. B. I. It has been my understanding that the F. B. I. did not issue to the general public any of its reports covering the investigations of individuals or specific organizations.

I am attaching a copy of a report which has come to me in connection with my objection to the activities of the National Council of Churches and call your special attention to the first paragraph thereof. If there have been any reports or statements made by the F. B. I. in connection with the National Council of Churches or any other information promulgated by the F. B. I. in connection with the National Council of Churches I would appreciate your forwarding me a copy thereof or the summary of the content of those reports, or advice as to the correctness or incorrectness of the attached memorandum.

Assuring you of my continued appreciation of the splendid work you and your organization have always performed, I am

Sincerely yours,



EXP. PROC.
 39 OCT 5 1964

GFD:at
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REC-64

*6 Dupes
 10/13/64
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117

The charges of Communist infiltration into the National Council of Churches has been completely disproved by the FBI. Indeed, a high F.B.I. Official has evidence that the present campaign of spreading distrust and dissension in the churches has brought encouragement to the Moscow directed Communists who have never before been able to break through the faith of the people in the Churches.

As Presbyterians, we have every confidence in our Biblically based System of Government and in the Church of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. We, the Session of the Central Presbyterian Church do hereby restate our belief and confidence in our Church, recognizing that, though our Lord is supreme and errorless, we, His Human servants are not. We call the entire congregation to join us in a sincere repentance for our past failures, to a revival of devotion to the Head of the Church, Jesus Christ, and to a deeper commitment of a growing Christian faith and work under the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the future.

Yours in our Master's Service,

Stuart McInerney
Minister

Robert L. ...
Associate Minister

William W. Winter
Clerk of Session

Approved by the Session September 9, 1964

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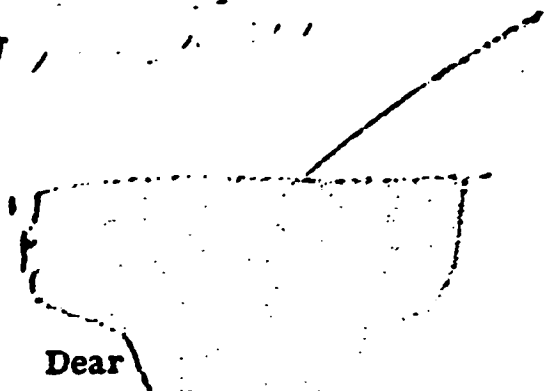
REPRO COPY

REPRO COPY

100-1111/10
ENCLOSURE

October 14, 1964

REC 4



Dear

Your letter of October 8th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

- Enclosures (4)
- Let's Fight Communism Sanelly!
- 4/17/62 Internal Security statement
- 4/1/61 LEB Intro
- Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DTP:fcl (3)

REC'D READING ROOM
FBI
OCT 14 11 43 AM '64

TRUE COPY

10-8-64.

J. Edgar Hoover.
Washington. D. C.

Dear Sir:

Could you supply a documented report of your findings on the National Council of Churches of Christ, and their affiliations with any Communistic organizations and their original back ground and originators.

Yours truly

REC 4

S-ETW

10-8-64

J. Edgar Hoover
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:

Could you supply a documented report
of your findings on the National Council
of Churches of Christ and their affiliation
with any Communist organization and
their original back ground and organization.

Yours truly,

IT-1001:11

10/11/64

REC- 43

John ...

October 12, 1964

REC'D 2 48 PM '64

FBI



Dear

Your letter of October 6th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

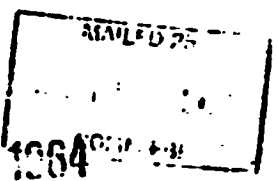
Sincerely yours,

W. Edgar Hoover

- Enclosures (4)
- "Faith in God--Cur Answer To Communism"
- Internal Security Statement, 4-17-62
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- LEB Introduction, 4-1-61

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DTP:blk
(3)



1964

ec:ln
MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Wm

✓

October 6, 1964

J. Edgar Hoover
Director of The Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Do you have any available information as to whether the National Council of The Churches of Christ in the United States of America is Communist inspired or infiltrated? Is the National Council, in your judgment, an asset or liability to the American people in terms of its power for or against Communism, or any other forces which threaten our existence?

I am pastor of the Methodist Church at [redacted]
Any information will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,
[redacted]

REC-43

5
OCT 13 1964

C-137

October 12, 1964

RECEIVED
FBI
OCT 17 3 25 PM '64

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter of October 5th and want to thank you for your generous comments concerning my administration of the FBI. It is hoped our future endeavors will continue to merit your support and approval.

With respect to your inquiries, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Further, it is contrary to my policy to comment on material not prepared by me or personnel of this Bureau. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the matters you mentioned.

Enclosed is some literature which I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten initials]


Enclosures (5)

DTP:djg

(3)

Enclosures and note next page.

[Handwritten signature]


Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
Internal Security 4-17-62
Faith in Freedom
4-1-61 LEB Introduction
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

Oct. 5, 1964

Dear Mr. Hoover,

For many years I have greatly admired you and your F. B. I., and most recently have come to believe that you and your men are the only bulwark between us and the communist take-over. On Oct. 24, 1964, my churches Presbytery meets and will hear a report on the work of the Nat'l Council of Churches. I have turned over my file on N. C. C. to the chairman of this committee but he feels much of the evidence needs more documentation. No one could dare question the integrity of you or your bureau so I wonder if it would be possible to get a letter from you stating whether or not the following have ever been found to have any communist connections.

1. The Nat'l Council of Churches
2. Dr. Eugene Carson Blake
3. Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam
4. Dr. Ralph W. Sockman
5. John A. MacKay
6. Edwin T. Dahlberg
7. Roswell P. Barnes
8. Walter Russell Bowie
9. Beverly M. Boyd
10. Samuel Mc crea Cavert
11. Hugh D. Darsie
12. Turman Douglas
13. Shelby Harrison
14. F. Ernest Johnson
15. Benson Y. Landis
16. I. George Nace
17. William Scarlett
18. Luther A. Weigle
19. Mrs. Douglas Horton
20. Rev. Edler Garnet Hawkins
21. William B. Spofford
22. Kirtley E. Mather
23. A. J. Muste
24. Frank P. Graham - 25. Dr. Harry F. Ward

FC-13

25 OCT 13 1964

F. I. T.

I have a number of articles written by persons and
and would like for you to tell me, in the bureau's opinion,
s can be considered authoratative.

obby
Anti-Communism Crusade
. Schwarz

Phillbrick
ion
Bundy

I hope this request isn't too hard and I feel certain that
some of these (many of them preachers) complacent
the opinion of Mr. Hoover or the F. B. I. these persons and/or
re dangerous and a threat to our internal security- then,
will they open their eyes and really get a good look at
going on, aided and abetted by our churches and their
ners! Let us all hope it won't be too late when they all

shall be very anxiously waiting for your reply. Thank

Most hopefully,

howman 02

greatly
and
Lelaine
- the only
Comm -
24, 1964
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I have
C. L. the
but L
needs
could
if you
if it
a letter
on mat.
found
ineffective.

ATTN
P.

Oct. 5, 1964

Dear Mr. Hoover,

For many years I have greatly admired you and your F. B. I., and most recently have come to believe that you and your men are the only bulwark between us and the Communists to take care. On Oct. 24, 1964, my church's Presbytery meeting will have a report on the work of the Nat'l Council of Churches. I have turned over my file on N.C.C. to the chairman of this committee but he feels much of the evidence needs more documentation. No one could ever question the integrity of you or your bureau so I wonder if it would be possible to get a letter from you stating whether or not the following have ever been found to have any Communist connections:

1. The Nat'l Council of Churches
2. Dr. Eugene Carson Blake
3. Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam

4. Mr. Ralph W. Dockman
5. John A. Mac Kay
6. Edwin T. Dahlberg
7. Roswell P. Barnes
8. Walter Russell Bowie
9. Rowland M. Boyd
10. Donald M. Crea Covert
11. Hugh D. Dorris
12. Truman Douglas
13. Shelby Harrison
14. F. Ernest Johnson
15. Benson Y. Landis
16. J. Gage Mac-
17. William Scarlett
18. John A. Weigle
19. Mrs. Douglas Horton
20. Rev. Elder Garnet Hawkins
21. William B. Spofford
22. Nestley E. Mather
23. A. J. Muter
24. Frank P. Graham - 25. Dr. Harry F. Ward

I have a number of articles written by persons and organizations and would like for you to tell me, in the Bureau's opinion, if their source can be considered authoritative.

1. Liberty Lobby
2. Christian Anti-Communist Crusade
3. Dr. Fred C. Schwarz
4. Jost Shuis
5. Dan Smart
6. Herbert A. Philbrick
7. Karl Prussion
8. ~~Rev~~ Major Edgar Bundy

I hope this request isn't too hard and I feel certain that I can say to some of these (some of them preachers) complacent people that in the opinion of Mr. Hoover the F. B. I. these persons and/or organizations are dangerous and a threat to our internal security. If they open their eyes and really get a good look at what they are doing on aid and abetted by some of their unwitting preachers, I think we all hope it won't be too late when they all wake up. I shall be very glad to write for you if you need it so much.

- DeLoach
- Mohr
- Bishop
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- Felt
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

October 9, 1964

REC-55

OCT 9 12 42 PM '64
 READING ROOM
 FBI



Dear

Your letter of October 6th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Therefore, I trust you will understand why I am not in a position to comment along the lines you have suggested and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 3
 OCT 9 - 1964
 COMM-FBI

OCT 9 1 24 PM '64
 READING ROOM
 FBI

[Handwritten signature]

- Enclosures (4)
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
- "Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DTP:ej
 (3)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- DeLoach
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- Felt
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials]

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. DeLoach _____
- Mr. Casper _____
- Mr. Callahan _____
- Mr. Conrad _____
- Mr. Evans _____
- Mr. Gale _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Sullivan _____
- Mr. Tavel _____
- Mr. Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Miss Holmes _____
- Miss Gandy _____

Pastor

October 6, 1964

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover, Director
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 U. S. Department of Justice
 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
 Washington 25, D.C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

In many of our churches in the South, in fact, in our churches all over the country, people are torn with indecision because of the tremendous amount of literature that is being circulated criticizing the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. In our Presbyterian churches, especially, there is unrest and confusion and many members wish to withdraw support from the National Council, saying that it is Communistic.

If you can give us some definite information resulting from your investigations that would show that the National Council is not "anti-anti-Communistic" perhaps some of the disgruntled would be convinced. Everywhere there is high regard for the Federal Bureau of Investigation and for yourself as its representative and even an opinion of yours would be readily acceptable.

Thank you for whatever assistance you can give us in this matter.

Very truly yours,



HCW:mhs

EXP. PROC.
 21 OCT 7 1964

REC-55

14 OCT 6 1964

OTT

October 8, 1964

REC-55

103
FBI READING ROOM
1 53 PM '64
Robert [unclear]
[unclear]

EX-123

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of September 30th, also signed by [redacted] and [redacted], has been received.

With respect to your inquiries, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches or to the individual you mentioned.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

MAILED 3
OCT 8 - 1964
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
W. Edgar Hoover

- Enclosures (4)
- 4/1/61 LEB Introduction
- 4/17/62 Internal Security Statement
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DTP:cil (3)

4 OCT 15 1964
MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

B.P.

September 30, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

We, the undersigned, are members of a sub-committee of a larger group created by the ~~Conference of The Methodist Church~~ Conference of The Methodist Church to study the National Council of Churches in the USA and to report, with recommendations, to the next session of our Conference in May 1965. The particular responsibility of our sub-committee is to examine accusations that have been made against the Council.

One of the chief charges has been that the Council is infiltrated by Communists and/or Communistic ideology. Believing that this is something of which the FBI would be aware if it be true, we are writing to inquire concerning this.

Does the FBI have evidence that the National Council is infiltrated by Communists or that Communist ideology is present in its actions and policies? Has the FBI ever officially stated or suggested that the National Council of Churches has Communists in its organization, or that it has Communistic tendencies in its program?

In a study of the National Council of Churches by the Alabama Legislative Commission to Preserve the Peace it is asserted that Dr. Harry E. Ward, formerly a professor at Union Theological Seminary in New York and founder of the now defunct Methodist Federation for Social Action, "has been officially identified as a member of the Communists Party." Is there any basis for this assertion? Has the FBI so identified him? If not, who in your opinion other than the FBI or Dr. Ward himself could "officially" identify him as a Communist?

We know that you are limited by practical considerations as to what you can say. On the other hand, great issues are at stake. When accusations of this sort are made, if they be true, our church people need to know. We do not wish to support Communism in any fashion. If they are not true, the welfare of the church is threatened, for these charges cannot but breed suspicion and distrust in the minds of many people. Where suspicion and distrust of the church exist, the church is irreparably damaged.

REC-55

CONFERENCE

Mr. Hoover

2

September 30, 1964

Please give us as much information as you can possibly give either upholding the accusations or exonerating the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely,



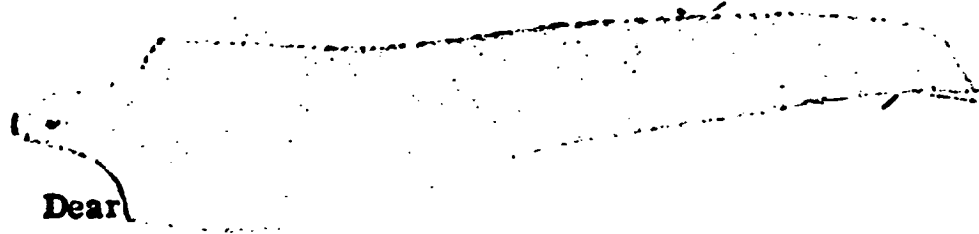
X

October 9, 1964

REC-35

100-51947-1001

X-103



Dear

Your letter of October 4th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Therefore, I trust you will understand why I am not in a position to comment along the lines you have suggested and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of

interest.

MAILED 3
OCT 9 - 1964
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

OCT 9 2 21 PM '64
FBI READING ROOM

Enclosures (4)

4/1/61 LEB Introduction
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
4/17/62 Internal Security Statement
"Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism"
NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
DTP:kaf (3)

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten checkmark]

[Handwritten signature]

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Bishop
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. Felt
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

15 1364
MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT
edm

4 October 1964

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

The First Presbyterian Church membership in this city has recently received a mailing that includes pamphlets condemning The National Council of Churches as a Communist-infiltrated organization. The minister, The Reverend [redacted] has asked us for our best thinking concerning this matter.

It occurs to me that I have sometime in the past read magazine articles with a clear view of this by one (or more) investigative agent of the bureau. I will very much appreciate any material that you feel could be useful to us.

Very truly yours,



Handwritten notes:
100-50869-72

100-50869-72

REC-35

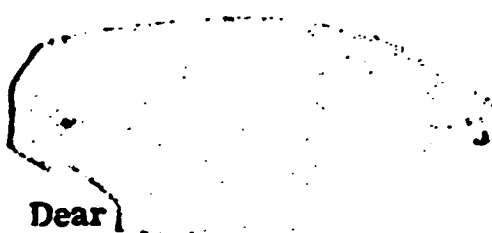
OCT 12 1964

103

Handwritten signature or initials

October 7, 1964

REC-42



Dear

Your letter of October 3rd has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches. In addition, no source comes to mind to which I might direct you in order to obtain the data you have requested.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (4)
"Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
Internal Security Statement 4-17-62
LEB Introduction 4-1-61

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DTP:rls (3)

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- DeLoach
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- Felt
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

64 OCT 13 1964 MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

RECEIVED READING ROOM
OCT 7 3 30 PM '64

Handwritten signatures and initials, including "M" and "Beck".

October 3, 1964

[Redacted]

8-

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

My Dear Mr. Hoover:

Could you please inform me as to where I could obtain documented information on the National Council of Churches? In this section of the south at this time the National Council is constantly under attack. Much of this, I realize is expressed in "feeling" not "fact". As a member of the Presbyterian Church in the United States and as an interested citizen, I would like "the facts". Any help you could offer would be greatly appreciated.

Yours very truly,

[Redacted Signature]

REC-4710 - 11/17

OCT 8 1964

EX-102

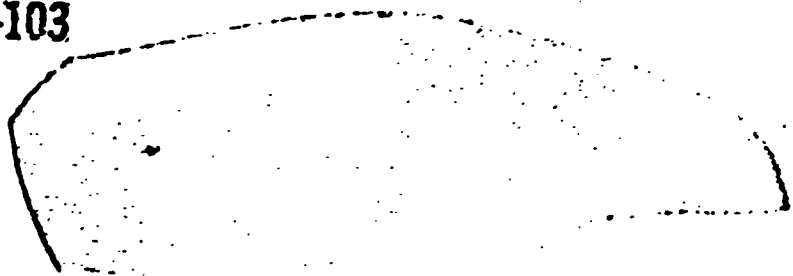
11:42

OTR's

REC 10 1100 50869-1252

October 6, 1964

EX-103



Dear _____

I received your letter of September 30th and want to thank you for your interest in my books on communism and for your generous remarks concerning my administration of the FBI. It is hoped our future endeavors will continue to merit your support and approval.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Handwritten scribbles and stamps, including a date stamp: OCT 13 8 08 AM '64

- Enclosures (4)
- Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely
- 4/1/61 LEB Intro
- 4/17/62 Internal Security Statement

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Circuit Riders (See Page 2)
DTP:plr (3)

Tolson _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 DeLoach _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Evans _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

J. Edgar Hoover

Note (Con't)

is well-known to the Bureau as a right-wing organization.

Sept 30, 1964

Mr J. Edgar Hoover
Chief Federal Bureau of Inv.
Washington D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

It has been brought to my attention by Myers G. Lowman's Circuit riders publication that many of the governing board of the National Council of Churches are also members of various Communist Front organizations. Is there any way to determine if these allegations are true.

It seems inconcievable that the support of an organization such as the National Council of Churches which comes manly from churches such as my own could have a large portion of its governing body made up of men who wish to overthrown not only our government but the churches themselves. However from your books I can see where this type of infiltration could happen.

If the allegations by mr. Lawmans group are true then I beleive ever church in the country should discontinue finacial support of the organization and I for one as a trustee of our church would so vote.

Any help you could give me in clearing up this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely

P. S. I like most other Americans am very greatful for the Leadership you have provided not only to your Dept but to the thinking people of the United States in regard Life under Law and order. Also the enlightenment you have given in your Books on Communists.

Sept 30 1964

A. Mr J. Edgar Hoover
Chief Federal Bureau of Inv.
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

It has been brought to my attention
by Mr. G. Lounsbury's recent publication
that many of the governing board of the National
Council of Churches are also members of various
Communist Front organizations. Is there any
way to determine if these allegations are true.

It seems inconceivable that the support of
an organization such as the National Council
of Churches which comes mainly from churches
such as my own could have a large
portion of its governing body made up of
men who wish to overthrow not only
our government but the churches themselves.

Have you from your books I can see where
this type of infiltration could happen?

If the allegations by Mr. Lounsbury's group
are true then I believe every church in the
Country should discontinue financial support
of the organization and I for one as a trustee
of our church would do so.
Can you help you could give me in

10/10/64
J.P.W.

CORRESPONDENCE

[REDACTED]

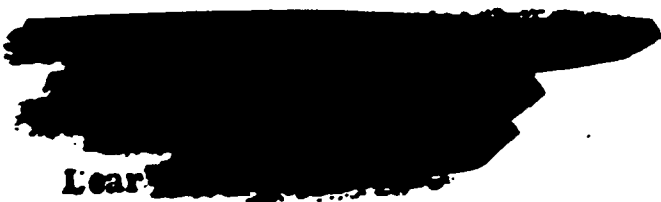
Clearing up this matter would be
Greatly appreciated

Sincerely
[REDACTED]

P.S. I like most other Americans am
Very grateful for the leadership you
have provided not only to your dept
but to the thinking people of the
united States in regard to life under law
and order. Also the enlightenment you
have given in your books on Communism
[REDACTED]

REC-64
REC-64 111-1072-1-51

October 6, 1964



Dear _____

Your letter of September 30th, with enclosure, has been received.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. Information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. In view of this, I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment concerning the National Council of Churches or the other questions you asked. In addition, I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have information in our files regarding the subjects of your inquiry.

REC'D-READING ROOM

OCT 13 3 33 PM '64


It is always reassuring to hear from citizens who demonstrate an awareness of the evils of communism and who desire to combat this threat to our freedoms. I am enclosing some material on the general topic of communism. You may also wish to refer to my books, "Masters of Deceit" and "A Study of Communism." The former was written with the hope that it would help readers gain an insight into the true nature of the communist conspiracy in this country. The latter contains an analysis of international communist practices and contrasts totalitarian methods with life in a free country. These books may be available at your local library. The self-addressed envelope which you so thoughtfully forwarded is being returned.

Sincerely yours,

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. DeLoach _____
- Mr. Casper _____
- Mr. Callahan _____
- Mr. Conrad _____
- Mr. Evans _____
- Mr. Gale _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Sullivan _____
- Mr. Tavel _____
- Mr. Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Miss Holmes _____
- Miss Gandy _____

Enclosures (6)
(Note & Enclosures Next Page.)
WAL:rsp (3)
Mail Room _____ Teletype Unit _____



**The U. S. Businessman Faces the Soviet Spy
Time of Testing
"Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism!"
Internal Security Statement 4-17-62
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!**

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent.

[Redacted]

September 30, 1964

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I am a member of a Christian Women's Fellowship of the Disciples of Christ Churches and some of us have attempted to introduce a study of Communism into our groups and we have met with a lot of opposition from some of our members who attend state and national meetings.

Could you answer a question for us? Have any of the office holders of the National Council of Churches been investigated and been found to be Communists, or Communist sympathizers?

Also, since I am from [Redacted] could you tell me whether our county is infested with many communists as I have heard reports to that effect.

Any answers you could give us that would help laywomen to be more informed and alert to the evils of Communism, and any suggestions about what we could do to help preserve our churches and our nation will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

EXP. PROC.
OCT 2 1964

Oct 10-6-64
W.A. [Redacted]

REC-64

100-41

OCT 2 1964
CORRESPONDENCE

REC-26

October 2, 1964

Oct 2 3 42 PM '64
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

Dear

Your letter of September 28th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 8
OCT 2 - 1964
COMM-FBI

- Enclosures (4)
- LEB Introduction, 4-61
- Internal Security Statement, 4-17-62
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism

NOTE: No derogatory information appears in Bufiles concerning [redacted] with whom we have had no correspondence.

DTP:kcf (4)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

- Johnson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- DeLoach
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- Felt
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy



September 28, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Ninth and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I urgently need whatever materials you can
release regarding the National Council of Churches.

The statement is made to me often these days
that the National Council is subversive. Any in-
formation that you could furnish would be most
appreciated.

I should like to have this material before
October 11, as I plan to preach on the subject that
Sunday.

Cordially,



REC-26

SEP 29 1964

[Handwritten signature]

September 30, 1964

REC 61

SEP 30 9 37 AM '64
FBI READING ROOM

Dear

Your letter of September 25th has been received.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. Information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. In view of this, I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment concerning the National Council of Churches, nor can I suggest a source where you could obtain the material you desire. In addition, I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files regarding the subjects of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent.

WAM:cai
(3)

MAILED 8
SEP 30 1964
COMM-FBI

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Sept. 25, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Will you please let me know if there is any evidence whatsoever that the National Council of Churches is infiltrated by Communists or Communist sympathizers, or that it has leftist leanings.

These accusations are often made. If true, perhaps I could use my influence to persuade the churches of this district to put pressure on the Council to "clean house," or we could withdraw support. On the other hand, if there is no such evidence I would like to have that information when talking with those who attack the Council.

If you can send me any information on this subject, or suggest where I could find authoritative information, I will greatly appreciate it.

Sincerely,

1217
REC 61
10 OCT 2 1964
J. Edgar Hoover

September 30, 1964

REC 61

1-1248

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of September 24th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of assistance in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

SEP 30 3 54 PM '64
FBI
READING ROOM

Enclosed is some literature which I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

- Enclosures (5)
- 4/1/61 LEB Introduction
- 4/17/62 Internal Security Statement
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- Faith in God... Our Answer to Communism
- One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DEC:pjf (3)

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

56 OCT 8 1964
adm

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Back
V. [unclear]
[unclear]

[REDACTED]
September 24, 1954

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Subject: National Council of Churches

Gentlemen:

I understand the FBI conducted an investigation on the National Council of Churches not long ago and would appreciate it if you could send me a report on it. At a recent church meeting, some members wanted to withdraw their support from the council. Their reason for this was that the council was not operating properly. I hadn't heard anything about the situation to argue one way or the other. For my own personal satisfaction I would like to hear something about this.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Yours truly,
[REDACTED]

REC 61

50867-1248

16 OCT 2 1954

100-10118-101
CORRESPONDENCE

September 30, 1964

100-1-1041

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 25th has been received.

In response to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

In connection with the magazine you mentioned, it has been our long-standing policy not to comment on articles which we have not prepared. We were not consulted on the content of this article and did not assist in its preparation. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

With respect to Herbert Philbrick, he furnished information concerning subversive activities on a confidential basis to this Bureau from 1942 to 1952 for which he was compensated. He was never an employee of the FBI. His services were terminated with his appearance as a witness in the trial of the communist leaders in New York City. His personal ventures and his opinions and comments are strictly his own and this Bureau is not in a position to comment on these in any way whatsoever.

SEP 30 4 00 PM '64
FBI
REC'D-READING ROOM

BSW

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Bishop
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. Felt
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Holmes
- Miss Gandy

Note and enclosures on next page.
DTP:dll (3)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

OCT 8 1964

Handwritten signatures and initials: ✓, DOW, [unclear], [unclear]

[REDACTED]

With regard to your final question, it is contrary to my policy to offer advice in legal matters. You may wish to discuss these issues with an attorney of your choice.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)

"Faith in Freedom"

4/17/62 Internal Security Statement

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

4/1/61 LEB Introduction

Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism

NOTE: Correspondent was employed by the FBI as a fingerprint clerk from [REDACTED] when he resigned. [REDACTED]

The Look magazine published Louis Cassel's article about the crisis in our churches and M. A. Jones' to DeLoach memorandum dated 4/16/62 set policy concerning response to this matter and prior inquiries have been answered along the same lines.

September 25, 1964

Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
The Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

This letter is a request for information or clarification from you concerning any statements which you may have made concerning the National Council of Churches or the Protestant Clergy in general. Much of what I feel to be racial quote and general misinformation concerning you and so-called "documentation" of communist influence in the NCCC has been being disseminated over the past months and years by various organizations and broadcasts. One grows weary of the hatred and mistrust sown by these groups across America and is tempted to ignore them. However, many of the people of this area are subjected to their broadcasts and are disturbed and confused.

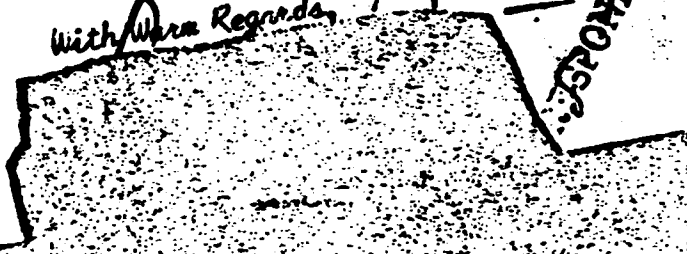
As a result, I have been asked to make a report in the National Council to our session and submit it also to our Presbytery. You are quoted in Look magazine a few years ago as clarifying a statement often attributed to you, indicating communist influence in the Clergy of America. Will you add anything to that, or have you added anything in recent years? Herbert Philbrick, the "Communist for the 33", has apparently also been used by these groups. That has been somewhat cleared up by some research. Is there any additional?

Finally, is there any way possible for Mr. "average citizen" to be spared the outright lies and half-truths and misrepresentation that is taking place over the airwaves and through the mails of our country? People ask, "If it isn't true, why do these people not end up in a lawsuit or slander trial?" They cannot comprehend how lies can be perpetrated and not prosecuted in view of the massive scale upon which they are done. If you have any light to shed upon this, I would appreciate it very much. I write to you, Mr. Hoover, for I am aware of the great use of your name in "proofs" which are used, and also because of the esteem in which you are held by all Americans, including this "element" on the right side of the political spectrum. I appreciate any light which you can shed.

With Warm Regards,

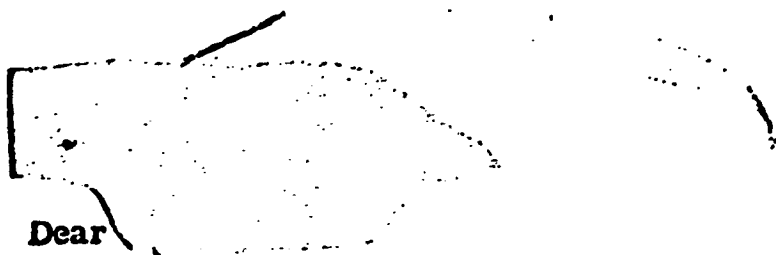
34-SEP 28 1964
EXP. PROC.

14 SEP 28 1964



REC-17-100-25867-1216

September 29, 1964



Dear

Your letter of September 21st has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Therefore, I trust you will understand why I am not in a position to comment along the lines you have suggested and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

SEP 29 2 06 PM '64
FBI
REC'D-READING ROOM

Enclosures (4)

4/1/61' LEB Introduction

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

4/17/62 Internal Security Statement

"Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism"

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DTP:dll (3)

dll

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

[Handwritten signature]

P.1.

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- DeLoach _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

SEP 29 1964

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

TRUE COPY

Sept. 21, 1964.

**The Federal Bureau of Investigation.
Washington, D. C.**

Dear Sirs:

It has recently come to my attention that some years ago the National Council of Churches become so heavily infiltrated with communists that the office of Naval Intelligence branded it a subversive group. If it is such a group, I am unwillingly contributing to its support because I am one of the thousands of members of the United Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Please give me such information as you can that will enable me to decide whether or not to continue as a member of this church--or any church that supports the National Council of Churches.

Do any of the present members of the governing body of the National Council of Churches have a communist front record?

Does the National Council of Churches still recommend a long list of books--many of which are by Communist authors--for reading by both children and adult members of the Churches?

REC-17 100-2-769

C-81P

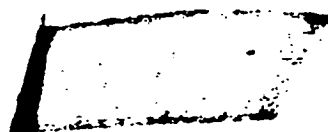
Does the National Council of Churches advocate a one-world socialist super-state which would eliminate both the independence of our Republic and our identity as a Nation?

In fact, can the National Council of Churches still be considered a subversive group?

An early reply will be appreciated.

Yours very truly,

/s/

A rectangular box with a thick black border, used to redact the signature of the sender.

Sept. 21, 1964.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

It has recently come to my attention that some years ago the National Council of Churches became known, infiltrated with communists that the Office of Naval Intelligence branded it a subversive group. If it is such a group, I am unwillingly contributing to its support because I am one of the thousands of members of the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

Please give me such information

as you can that will create some

to decide whether or not to continue
as a member of the Church - or any
Church that supports the National Council
of Churches.

Do any of the present members of the
governing bodies of the National Council of
Churches have a Communist front record?

Does the National Council of Churches still
recommend a long list of books - many of
which are Communist utterances - for reading
by both children and adult members of the
Churches?

Does the National Council of Churches advo-
cate a one-world socialist super-state which
would eliminate both the independence
of our Republic and our identity as a
Nation?

In fact, can the National Council of Churches
still be considered a religious group?

An early reply will be appreciated.

Yours truly,
[Signature]



REC-17

100-30869

September 29, 1964

SEP 29 11 48 AM '64
FBI
REC'D - READING ROOM



Dear

Your letter of September 23rd has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Therefore, I trust you will understand why I am not in a position to comment along the lines you have suggested and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

ESP

- Enclosures (4)
- 4/1/61 LEB Introduction
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- 4/17/62 Internal Security Statement
- "Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"

J.H.

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
DTP:dll (3)

NSR

dll

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

56002/104

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

September 23, 1964

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover, Dir.
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In recent months a very disturbing rumor has been gaining some momentum here in our city.

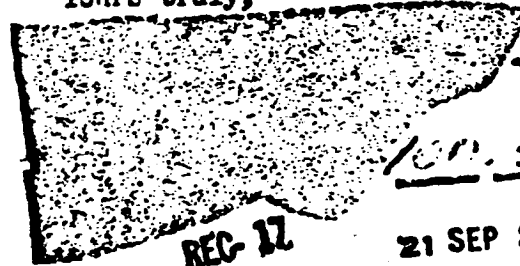
The rumor has it that the National Council of Churches, whose current President is our own Bishop Rueben H. Mueller of Indianapolis, has a considerable amount of communist infiltration, and is in no small measure being influenced by the communist element that is working in the council.

You can readily understand how some good Christian people would be very much disturbed at such a rumor. For this reason, I would like to have a straight from the shoulder comment from you, giving your appraisal of the organization and its connection, if any, with any subversive movement, including the Communist Party.

I realize that a great many organizations all over the country may have some infiltration of undesirable elements, and it would be very difficult to screen them all out. At the same time I know the organizations and their leadership are not to be condemned on a wholesale basis.

I also know you may have information concerning persons connected with the National Council of Churches, that is classified and cannot be released for security reasons. However, any information you can give will be greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,



REC-12

100-51117
21 SEP 30 1964

CONFIDENTIAL

27-102

September 28, 1964

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 21st has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

REC'D... READING ROOM

SEP 28 3 16 PM '64

With regard to the House Committee on Un-American Activities, it is suggested you may wish to communicate with its Chairman, located in Room 225, Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D. C. 20515, for any assistance he may be able to render you.

Enclosed is some literature which I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Handwritten signatures and initials: J. Edgar Hoover, J. P. DeW...

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- DeLoach _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

- Enclosures (4)
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- Faith in Freedom

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

66 OCT 15 1964

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

September 21, 1964

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D.C.

Dear Sirs:

We are interested in obtaining any information concerning Communism in the Council of Churches organizations.

I realize this request covers many facets, but such things as records of committee on Un-American Activities would be most helpful to us.

Sincerely,

EX-102

REC-31

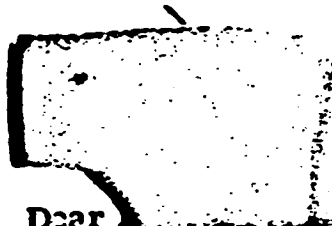
14 SEP 29 1964

September 23, 1964

EX 101

REC-51/ - 50869 -

SEP 23 2 21 PM '64
FBI
READING ROOM



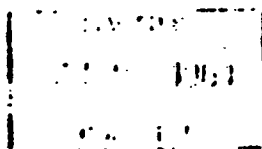
Dear

Your letter of September 17th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,



Handwritten initials

- Enclosures (4)
- Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
- 4/1/61 LEB Introduction
- 4/17/62 Internal Security Statement
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
- DTP:dll (3)

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Walters _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

Handwritten initials

Handwritten initials

Handwritten notes and checkmarks

60 SEP 25 1964

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

TRUE COPY

Sept. 17, 64

Dear Sir.

Could you give me information concerning The National Council of Churches activities.

The information I need, is about communist infiltration now or in the past.

I believe the Council is doing a good job, but I need help concerning them in my church's discussion.

Sincerely

REC-51 100-100

ETP

Oct 17, 64

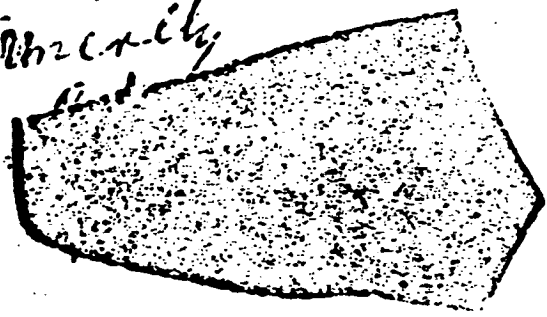
Dear Sir

Could you give me information concerning the National Council of Churches activities.

The information I need, is about Communist infiltration now or in the past

I believe the Council is doing a good job, but I need help concerning them in my church's discussion

Sincerely,



8-277

September 17, 1964

REC-22

Honorable Vernal R. Jansen
United States Attorney
311 Federal Building
Mobile, Alabama 36602

Dear Mr. Jansen:

Mr. Evans has told me of your telephone call to him concerning the current controversy regarding alleged communist infiltration of the National Council of Churches. I have never made any public statement indicating that this organization has or has not been infiltrated by the communists. A sentence from a statement I made on March 26, 1947, before the House Committee on Un-American Activities has been taken out of context and quoted widely by opponents of the National Council of Churches. I am enclosing a copy of page 12 of this statement wherein I have underlined the pertinent sentence:

Also enclosed are reprints of four articles I have written relating to the communist attack on religion. These items clearly state my views on this topic.

I can assure you this Bureau has never indicated that the National Council of Churches is or is not communist infiltrated. Regulations of the Department of Justice require that information in the files of the FBI be maintained as confidential and available for official use only. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files regarding the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Sullivan

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Evans

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Morrell

DWB:sas (10)

Enclosures (5) The Communism Menace, "Christianity Today," Oct. 10 and 24, Nov. 7, 1960; Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion; "Christianity Today," June 22, 1959; "Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism, Crusader, June, 1961; Let's Fight Communism Sanely, "Christian Herald," Jan, 1962.

NOTE: Jansen was appointed U. S. Attorney in August, 1961, The controversy relating to alleged infiltration of the National Council of Churches has been boiling for many years and we receive numerous inquiries in this regard. See Evans

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT to Belmont memo, 9-15-64, Communist Infiltration of Churches.

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI
SEP 17 4 09 PM '64
UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

SEP 23 1964

MAILED 19
SEP 18 1964
COMM-FBI

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Cooper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. Belmont

FROM : C. A. Evans

DATE: September 15, 1964

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF CHURCHES

United States Attorney Vernol R. Jansen of Mobile telephoned me this morning and said he had a request which he thought should be most properly handled at Bureau Headquarters rather than through the SAC at Mobile as it concerned quoted statements of the Director.

Mr. Jansen said that in connection with the current political campaign an early statement which the Director made supposedly to the Un-American Activities Committee as to communism in the National Council of Churches is being quoted widely throughout Alabama.

United States Attorney Jansen said that numerous protestant ministers had come to him pointing out they were aware of a second statement made by the Director about the National Council of Churches and asking that Jansen make this available to them so they could refute the current charges being made against the church.

Jansen went on to say that he had available on his desk a copy of the Director's latest book and had called appropriate pages therein to the attention of the visiting clergy but that didn't seem to satisfy them.

He indicated his belief that the statement being referred to by the ministers was probably made about three years ago. He ask if we could give him some guidance as to the Director's latest views on the National Council of Churches and any public source as to where this material might be located by him.

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Evans
- 1 - Mr. Stanley

REC-22

CAE:tjm
(7)

SEP 23 1964

CONTINUED - OVER

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF CHURCHES

ACTION:

It is recommended this matter be reviewed by the Domestic Intelligence and Crime Records Divisions so that any appropriate information can be made available to United States Attorney Jansen. This can be handled either in writing or telephonically as the circumstances may indicate.

✓

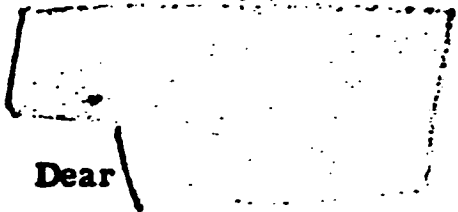
[Handwritten signature]

J.

September 21, 1964

REC-44

100-50511-124



Dear

Your letter of September 15th, with enclosure, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. Information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. In view of this, I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment concerning the National Council of Churches. In addition, I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files regarding the subject of your inquiry.

I am returning the postage you so thoughtfully enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



Enclosure

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

WAM:cal

(3)

cal

JH

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Malone _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
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- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

FBI READING ROOM

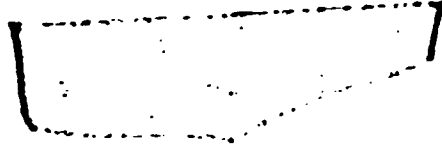
SEP 21 9 52 PM '64

1A

TRUE COPY

Sirs,

I have become aware of all the talk and concern about the National Council of Churches. Do you have any information that would enlighten me on the subject? or do you know where I could get some reliable information?



REC-44

SEP 22 1951

CORRESPONDENCE

Sis,
I have become aware of all
the talk and concern about
the National Council of Churches.
Do you have any information
that would enlighten me
on the subject? or do you
know where I could get some
reliable information?



GUMM

EX 101

REC-56

September 18, 1964

[REDACTED]

B. [REDACTED] 1971

SEP 18 3 18 PM '64
FBI READING ROOM

Your [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 15th has been received.

Although I would like to be of assistance, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of aid but trust you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files concerning the subject of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

MAILED 19
SEP 18 1964
COMM-FBI

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

- Tolson _____
- F. B. [unclear] _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

151
adm

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

1/21

[REDACTED]
9-15-64
[REDACTED]

Mr Edgar Hoover
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr Hoover,

To begin with, I am asst. postmaster at [REDACTED]
I am a Elder in the presbyterean Church, age 65 yr.

What I would like for you to do for me, if you please,
and have the time is: to let me know if the National Council of Churches
is donating any money to promote communism in the U.S. ? and also
incouraging and helping finance Negro demonstrations in America.

If you will, Mr Hoover, if you do not have the time will
you have some one of your employees to give me the above information
and any other about the National Council of Churches assisting
communism in any form.

The reason I want this information is - our presbyterian
church, with a membership of approx. 325 voted at a congrigational
meeting a few weeks ago to withhold all our funds from the N. C. of C.
until a thorough investigation was made.

I know the N. C. C. do an immense amount of good,
therefore I do not want to condem them myself until I am certain that
some members of the N. C. C. are doing such.

Please if you will answer this request.

Respectfully
[REDACTED]

REC-54

100-50507-1
10 SEP 23 1964
[Handwritten initials]

37-104

[Redacted]

9-15-64

[Redacted]

Mr Edgar Hoover
Washington, D.C.
Dear Mr Hoover:

To begin with, I am a postmaster
at [Redacted]. I am a Elder in
the Presbyterian Church, age 65 yrs.
What I would like for you to do for
me, if you please, and have the time
is to let me know if the National
Council of Churches is donating any
money to promote Communism in
the U.S. and also encouraging
and helping finance Negro domination
in America.

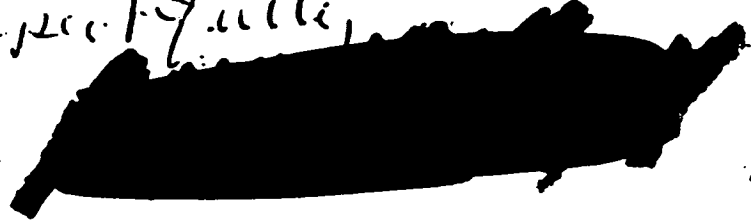
SEP 15
1964

or vice, Mr Hoover, if you do not
have the time vice, you have some
of your employees to give me
above information and any other
about the National Council Churches
opposing Communism in any form.
The reason I want this information
is our Presbyterian Church with
a membership of approx. 325 [Redacted] at [Redacted]
and

CORRESPONDENCE

A Congregation - you may be (the name
of the church) - all the friends from
the N. C. C. sent a thorough trans-
action was made.

I know the N. C. C. do an immense
amount of good, therefore I do not
want to condemn them unjustly
I am certain that some members of
the N. C. C. are being such.
Please if you will answer this
request.

Respectfully,


EX-130

REC-1 100-50869-1234

September 17, 1964

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of September 15th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of assistance in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

In response to your request, I am enclosing a list of organizations which have been cited as subversive by the Department of Justice of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450 as well as some other material which I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 19
SEP 17 1964
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)

- List of Subversive Organizations Executive Order 10450
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely
- Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The "New Age" magazine is the official organ of the Supreme Council, 33°, ancient and accepted Scottish rite of freemasonry, Southern jurisdiction, United States of America, 1733 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20009. The article to which correspondent refers is practically a verbatim quote of the Director's speech, "Keys To Freedom." DFC:rls (3)

Tolson _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 DeLoach _____
 Evans _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

SEP 17 3 15 PM '64
READING ROOM
B

September 15, 1964



Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Sir:

I have been hoodwinked for years, mine eyes have been opened. I have just finished your article, "Challenge not Compromise" in the September issue of THE NEW AGE. I have read and tried to understand what was in the article is real and it is happening today, live in our hometown. It is startling to imagine so great a crime is being committed and we as a nation are asleep at the helm, our ship is slowly sinking. God must have help, He needs our prayers to show Him that we have not left Him out of our lives completely. As individuals what else can we do? Shall we purge our Federal government? Can it continue in this manner? Shall we purge our state and local offices? Our school boards and local people who are possibly unaware that they are supporting such a dreadful thing. Where is the stopping place, or should I have said, "where is our starting place?" We can't undo in one or two years what has been building up for years the past decade. We must always be on guard.

SEP 17 3 15 PM '64
FBI
RECEIVED READING ROOM

Our church, The First Methodist Church of [redacted] is supporting the National Council of Churches. I have read some pretty disgusting things about [redacted] organization. Can you give me some LIGHT on this?

SEP 21 1964

I have heard of the many organizations that are communist fronted, is a listing on these available? I would like to know of them if possible.

My God First, then my Country



CC-000

EX 1000 100-50869-1237X

REC 5 4 / 11 / September 11, 1964



Dear

Your letter of September 4th, with enclosure, has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret that I am unable to be of assistance in this instance but trust you will understand the reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the Federal Council of Churches.

REC'D-READING ROOM

SEP 11 3 29 PM '64

In addition, you can make arrangements to speak to a representative of this Bureau, if you so desire, by contacting our office located at 1700 Johnston Building, Charlotte, North Carolina 28202.

Enclosed is some literature which I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

MAILED 6
SEP 11 1964
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)
1 - Charlotte - Enclosure

DFC:mca
(4)

(See page 2)

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

MAR 11 1965
SEP 17 1964 TELETYPE UNIT



Enclosures

"Faith in Freedom"

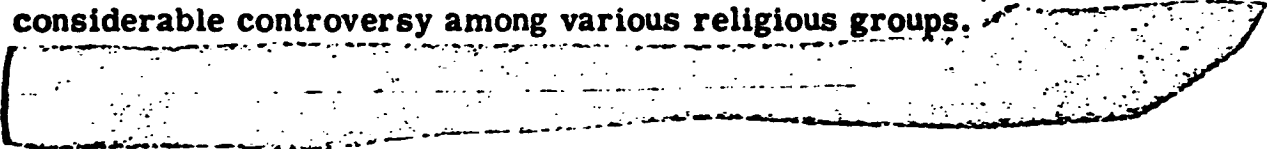
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

4-1-61 LEB Introduction

4-17-62 Internal Security Statement

One Nation's Response To Communism

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. American Council of Christian Laymen is well known in Bufiles. This organization was responsible for the dissemination of the pamphlet entitled "How Red Is The Federal Council of Churches." This item contained a quotation of the Director which had been taken out of context and used in the manner to give the implication that certain individuals affiliated with the Federal Council of Churches were subversive. This misuse caused considerable controversy among various religious groups.



TRUE COPY



Dear Sir;

Over 25 years ago I heard this Russian speak at our "First Baptist Church" here. He told how the Communist took over their country and shipped him to Siberia and how they treated all christians - I made a vow then I'd always fight communism where ever I could. After reading "J." Edgar Hoover's book "Master's of Deceit it really opened my eyes.

This summer a person brought me a book "about subversive influence in the Methodist Church and call Rev. Seovl a Communist. I was so shocked and after watching the papers telling about church news and the "Federal Council of Church" looked bad too - then some one - gave me this panplet - I am a Baptist but what effects their church will effect ours later - So I feel the urge to carry these to their ministers and let them see for them selves if it is true - I can't think the American people or christian should be kept in the dark if all of this is true - Our government isn't being true to us. I would appreciate your facts on the panplet.

They say Harry F. Ward is a Communist that started the council years ago. I'd like to cary your letter to my friends too. Being a christian I do hate communism and all Americans should. I'd like to fight it all that I could in my little way.

If these arn't true - the source they came from should be stopped.

If some of your men are near my way I'd like to talk to them -

100-50869-1237X

REC 5

Sincerely yours

3 SEP 14 1964

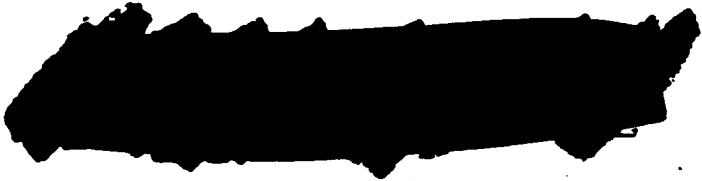
/s/



SEP 14 1964

8 1.1

ENCLOSURE



Dear Sir,
 over 25 years ago I heard
 this Russian speak at our "First
 Baptist Church" here. He told how
 the Communist took over their
 country and shipped him to Siberia
 and how they treated all Christians -
 I would not class I'd always kept
 Communism where ever I could, after
 reading "The 100 Years Struggle"
 "Masters of Deceit" it really opened my
 eyes.

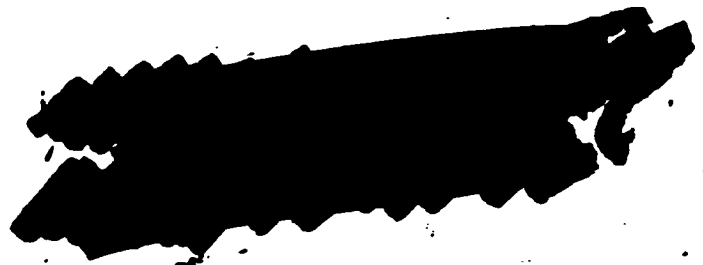
This man, as a person brought
 me back "about" substance of
 in the Protestant church and call
 that kind a Communist, I was at
 church in 1950, I was watching the
 papers "Reading" church members and
 the "Federal Council of Churches"
 and that is - that I was in
 on the 1st of 1950 - I was in 1950
 out of the church, I was in 1950
 I feel the urge
 to every church to have ministers
 that are not Communist
 that are not Communist
 that are not Communist
 that are not Communist

ENCLOSURE

CORRECTION OFFICE

Comment that starting the course
years ago. I'd like to copy your letter
to my sister. Please let me know
if you have any more and also
if you can send me a copy of your
if all that would be in my letter.

If there are any more, then
I'd like to see them from school
to the school.
If you can send me a copy
of the letter to the school
I'd like to see them.
I'd like to see them.



September 10, 1964

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

To Whom It May Concern:

We have noticed an increase in the dissemination of material highly critical of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America in our area. Among the many criticisms is the allegation that the Council is a communist-front organization, and that there has been extensive penetration of Communists into the ranks of leadership.

It is also said that the F.B.I. has made an investigation of the Council and that their report verifies these accusations. Is it true that the Bureau has investigated the Council, and if so, is the report of the investigation available?

Any help that you can give will be most appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted signature]

REC-115

100-50867-1

SEP 16 1964

EX 109

CORRESPONDENCE

September 15, 1964

REC-46
100-50867-11

SEP 15 2 03 PM '64
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI



Dear [redacted]

Your letter of September 10th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Further, this Bureau does not issue clearances or nonclearances of any type. Therefore, I trust you will understand why this Bureau has not released a report along the lines you have suggested and hope you will not use our inability to furnish data as the basis for inferring either that we have or have not "cleared" the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature which I trust will be of interest.

MAILED 19
SEP 15 1964
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

✓
J. Edgar Hoover
DeLoach
DTP

Enclosures (4)

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

4/17/62 Internal Security Statement

"Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism"

4/1/61 LEB Introduction

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

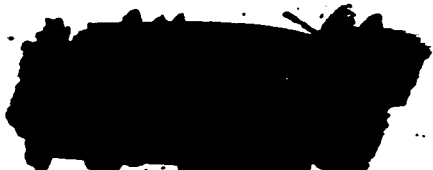
DTP:dll (3)

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- DeLoach
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- Felt
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

September 15, 1964

REC-21

100-50719-12



Dear



REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI
SEP 15 3 48 PM '64

Your letter of September 11th has been received, and I want to thank you for your complimentary comments regarding my efforts as Director of the FBI. It is my hope that the future endeavors of this Bureau continue to merit your approval.

With respect to your inquiry, I would like to point out that the FBI does not issue clearances or nonclearances of any type and that our files are confidential and available for official use only pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice.

With regard to the National Council of Churches, a representative of the FBI did talk to the group you mentioned, however, they were not given any information from our files to substantiate their conclusion. The conclusions drawn by them were strictly their own and it should be clearly understood that our inability to furnish information to this group should not be the basis for inferring either that we have or have not "cleared" this organization.

I am enclosing some literature which I trust will be of interest.

MAILED 19
SEP 15 1964
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
[Signature]

Enclosures (4)

4-1-61 LEB Introduction

4-17-62 Internal Security Statement Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism

Let's Fight Communism Sanelly!

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Mr. Sullivan has explained the Episcopal Commission was given the Bureau's official position in regard to these matters and drew their own conclusions.

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT DFC:mc (3)

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Bishop
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. Felt
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Mr. Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

[REDACTED]
September 11, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In the April, 1963 issue of our Diocesan church paper "Churchwork", it was reported that the committee appointed by the General Convention of the Episcopal Church to investigate the National Council of Churches in the U.S.A. had said "After consulting with the House Un-American Activities Committee and the FBI, the committee could find no substantiation to the charges of "Communism" among the leadership of the NCC,--"

I will only comment on the fact that the term "House Un-American Activities Committee" is a misnomer.

My reason for writing is not whether or not there are communists in the NCC as I would like to believe that there are not.

My reason for writing is the statement "After Consultation -- with the FBI--". I was told at the time that the FBI never gives information to anyone other than the Justice Department. I started to write to you then, but my information did not come from anyone with any authority. A few minutes ago, however, I heard on TV a program on which a senator said "the FBI never reports directly to the people". Would you please send me some sort of confirmation of this fact, if it is true.

I cannot write to you without telling you how much I appreciate all you have done, are doing and, I hope, will continue to do to keep this country of ours free.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

REC-21

100-56769-1

SEP 16 1964

CI

September 16, 1964

EX-101

REC-21 100-50919-1030

[REDACTED]

SEP 15 2 03 PM '64
FBI
READING ROOM

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 9th has been received.

While I would like to be of assistance to you concerning the questions you asked regarding the National Council of the Churches of Christ, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent.

WAM:dll
(3)

MAILED 19
SEP 15 1964
COMM-FBI

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Handwritten notes and signatures:
✓
B...
G...
H...
... pt

September 9, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
The Justice Department
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

The question is being asked of me by responsible persons "are there Communist sympathizers in the National Council of Churches?"

Could you share with me such information as you have that will answer this question? Does your Department regard the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America as a Communist organization or one that is led or influenced to any considerable degree by persons who are Communists or known Communist sympathizers?

Your helpfulness will be appreciated.

Very sincerely yours


GBH/gk

REC-21
100-50867-10
100
100

September 14, 1964

REC-21



Dear [redacted]

Your letter of September 8th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of assistance in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some material I hope will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,
H. Edgar Hoover

SEP 14 1 37 PM '64
FBI
RECEIVED-HEADING ROOM

- Enclosures (5)
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- Faith in Freedom
- One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DFC:sls

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- DeLoach _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

MAR 22 1964 TELETYPE UNIT

September 14, 1964

100-59869-1753

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

I received your letter of September 8th, with enclosure, and can understand the concern prompting your communication.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the individual you mentioned.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

[Handwritten signatures]

- Enclosures (5)
 - "Faith in Freedom"
 - Communism--The Incredible Swindle
 - Counterintelligence Activities
 - Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
 - Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

FBI READING ROOM

SEP 14 11 23 AM '64

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

[Handwritten mark]

62.
PP:leh (4)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

[Handwritten initials]

September 8, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

My Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am Clerk of the Session and, of course, a member of the Session of the First Presbyterian Church here in [REDACTED]. I attended as a representative from [REDACTED] Presbytery the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. which was held in [REDACTED] in the spring of this year.

I along with other members of our Session have become alarmed at the method of operation of the National Council of Churches and the way they operate.

As you know, this organization has spearheaded the movement of the Northern freedom workers who have been giving so much trouble in Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama and other Southern states. Likewise, all of the literature that I can get my hands on states that the National Council of Churches is infiltrated with communists.

I have been asked by our Session to write you and get any information which you might have with reference to the communist infiltration in the National Council of Churches and also any information you might have with reference to the part the National Council of Churches has had in this freedom workers movement.

I will certainly appreciate your giving me any information which you might have with reference to the National Council of Churches.

Assuring you of our appreciation for this service, I am

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED SIGNATURE]

DHA:hr

REC-21
SEP 16 1964



Sept. 8, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

*0 National Council of
Churches*

Dear Mr. Hoover:

As a Ruling Elder of the First Presbyterian Church
of [redacted] I am taking the liberty of writing
you for information regarding the inclosed letter.

This letter was sent to each communicant member of
the church. As far as I am able to determine, our church
is the only Presbyterian Church [redacted] to receive
this letter.

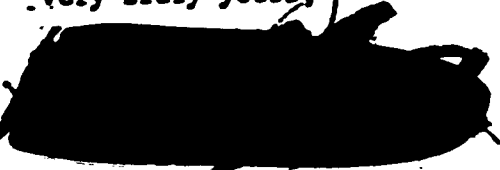
I would deeply appreciate your advising me as to
substantiating the facts, as outlined in the article,
pertaining to the New Moderator of our General Assembly.

Your answer to this letter will be read to the elders
at our next regular Session Meeting.

Although I am on inactive reserve status, I am a
Major in Military Intelligence, so you understand my
concern.

Thank you Mr. Hoover for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,



100-55867
NOT RECORDED
176 SEP 16 1964

14 SEP 15 1964

CORRESPONDENCE

P14

~~ENCLOSURE~~



A "PAUL REVERE" MESSAGE — TO A FRIEND — SPREAD THE ALARM — DON'T DISCARD

Dr. Eugene Carson Blake's leadership in his denomination and in
The National Council of Churches of Christ

may very well result in the organized Church finally being recognized as a political organization whose prime interest is
World Socialism.

DR. CHARLES S. POLING WITHDRAWS
from the
UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH U. S. A.

February 17, 1964

The Rev. Claude L. Morton, Stated Clerk,
The Presbytery of Phoenix,
The United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.

My dear Mr. Morton:

I am instructing you to erase my name from the roster of the ministers of the Presbytery of Phoenix, of the United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.

I cannot longer give loyal support to a church that, through official action and pronouncements, unites with the forces of evil and goes on record as opposing the historic beliefs and doctrines that made us great and lent dignity and meaning to our preaching. I refer to the recent General Assembly's action relating to "public prayers, religious observances, religious holidays, Christian scenes, Bible reading in the schools and on school property; opposition to Sunday closing laws" and other deliverances one would expect atheistic groups to take but never such action from a church bearing the name and banner of our Lord and Saviour.

I cannot longer find fellowship in a church that blindly submits to the rule of Dr. Eugene Carson Blake who seems dominated by an omnipotent complex, associates with listed and known communists, deliberately breaks the laws of a sovereign state, and leads marches that can only inspire hate and provoke violence. And I yield to no man in desire to see all minority groups enjoying the full and unrestricted blessings and opportunities my own race enjoys. When my church becomes the captive of the ultra liberal and apostate National Council of Churches, and the World Council and yields obedience to the socialistic, political hierarchy, my church can no longer claim my support and respect. I will not sin by remaining silent while my Presbytery considers becoming a member of the NAACP, a militant political organization. (See minutes of January meeting of Presbytery.)

Our denomination's news media—Presbyterian Life, Social Education and Action, and Monday Morning, have been captured by the ultra Liberals and serve notice that there is no place in the United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. for conservatives. For nearly fifty years I have served my church and walked proud and tall because I was counted worthy to be one of her accredited ministers. There were "giants in the land" in those days and they thundered God's truth as modern Isaiah. They "reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come". Today, when "the world at its worst needs the church at its best", we get ourselves lost with the lost. The great tragedy in ministerial circles today is that the word "sin" is not held in repute, or even considered in good taste. Now people make mistakes, have faults, fail to achieve, suffer from complexes, are mentally ill. But sin? No.

There is a crushing hand of shame upon me for my beloved church, and a great sadness in my heart. I make my decision after earnest prayer and the full concurrence of Mrs. Poling. I shall continue my preaching into the future be that future extended or brief, still preaching with pride and joy the Gospel proclaimed by our church Fathers throughout the years of our glorious past.

Earnestly and sincerely,

Charles S. Poling

The Poling family name in clerical circles is one of the best known in America. Dr. Poling held pastorates at Westminister—Bloomfield, New Jersey; First Presbyterian Church—Phoenix, Arizona, and First Presbyterian Church—Long Beach, California. While at Long Beach he used to exchange pulpits with Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, then at Pasadena Presbyterian Church in Pasadena, California. It is a sad day when this nationally known minister, after a lifetime in the ministry, has no choice other than to disassociate himself with what has become an apostate church, whose very actions clearly indicate that its prime interest is World Socialism rather than preaching God's word.

100-5069-1283

[REDACTED]

J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

I have just been challenged to present documented material proving that the National Council of Churches has been infiltrated by the Communists.

I would appreciate it very much if you could send me documented information proving this. Also, and perhaps more important, I need information pertaining to the accuracy of the documentations. It has been pointed out to me that when the Congressional Record is used as a reference, in a great many cases only excerpts are used specifically to prove the point of the author. Information relating to this statement would also be appreciated.

I would also like to request information on what was done to the thirty (30) men accused of being communists who helped produce the Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

Finally, if this is at all possible, I would like very much to have your own personal feelings on these subjects.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

J

PM
7 SEP
1964

REC 14

100-50869-1732

EX 110

SEP 15 1964

*ack 9-14-64
DKC/SS/Ref*

2-12-64

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

September 14, 1964

Handwritten initials/signature

REC'D - READING ROOM
F B I
SEP 14 1 40 PM '64



Dear

Your letter of September 7th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of assistance in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the matters you mentioned.

Enclosed is some material I hope will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

- Enclosures (5)
- LEB Introduction, 4-61
- Internal Security Statement, 4-17-62
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- Faith in Freedom, 12-4-63
- One Nation's Response to Communism

Handwritten signature: Dech

NOTE: There is no record of [redacted] in Bufiles.

DFC:kcf (3)

Handwritten initials/signature

Handwritten signature/initials

REC 55/100-50861-15

September 14, 1964

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

SEP 14 9 22 PM '64
FBI
READING ROOM

Your letter of September 8th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files concerning the National Council of Churches. You may be assured I have not released the statement you have indicated.

With regard to the article you mentioned, in line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. We were not consulted on the content of this article and did not assist in its preparation. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

[Handwritten signature]

- Enclosures (4)
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism

NOTE: Correspondent was written on 3-30-61, and there is no derogatory information in Bufiles concerning him.

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

September 8, 1964

Mr. Tolson	11
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

This past Sunday as a teacher of an adult Sunday School class in the First Presbyterian Church here I brought up the National Council of Churches. There has been much criticism of the NCC in our local church, although it has many defenders. Several of the members agreed it was a "touchy" subject.

In regard to the often-repeated allegation that the Council is communist-infiltrated, I quoted remarks by William C. Sullivan which appeared in an article by Louis Cassels to the effect that "...the Communist party has not achieved any substantial success in exerting domination, control or influence over America's clergymen or religious institutions on a national scale."

One of the class members (a former Commander of the local American Legion pct) was sure you had said the NCC was infiltrated by communists. If you can refer to any published statements you have made on this matter I would surely appreciate it.

Yours very truly

[Redacted signature]

REC 55

14 SEP 10 1964

EX-117
FROG
34 SEP 10 1964

RESPONSE PAGE

September 10, 1964

REC 5 100-5017-1030

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 4th has been received.

While I would like to be of assistance, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some material which I trust you will find of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 6
SEP 10 1964
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?
4/17/62 Internal Security Statement
"Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
The Deadly Contest

NOTE: Bufiles have no records identifiable with correspondent.
WAM:dll (3)

SEP 10 11 13 AM '64
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

- Tolson
- DeLoach
- Mohr
- Bishop
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- Felt
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

September 4, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am writing to request information which I hope very much you will be able to supply.

Several publications of pamphlet and paper back books are circulating many churches of America in which you are quoted on communism. I am quite sure the quotations are unquestionably accurate.

I am not certain about some of the inferences which follow these quotations. Generally your quotation is used to support the premise that the National Council of Churches is communist dominated or has communist infiltration.

I respectfully ask: (1) If you can say whether or not the National Council of Churches is communist dominated. (2) Do you consider the National Council of Churches the greatest aide to communism in America as charged in these publications. (3) Are any of the leaders, clergy, or laymen, of the National Council of Churches considered by you as suspect of having communist leanings.

I shall deeply appreciate any reply you can make specifically or generally to my questions.

Respectfully,
[Signature]

REC 5
67-1236
SEP 14 1964

EFU/vg

September 8, 1964

SEP 9 11 08 AM '64
REC'D...READING ROOM
F B I

1229
[Redacted]
Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of September 1st has been received, and I am glad to know of your interest in my book, "Masters of Deceit."

In response to your request, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of assistance in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

While this Bureau does not maintain literature regarding that organization for distribution, I am enclosing some material on the general topic of communism which I trust will be of interest.

MAILED 6
SEP 8 - 1964
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
[Signature]

[Handwritten initials]

- Enclosures (5)
- Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
- Faith in Freedom

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DFC:mc

(4) 1964

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

[Redacted]

September 1, 1964

9-
ja

J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau Of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir

It is imperative that I have all the information and literature that you can send or refer me to concerning The National Of Churches, in regards to their affiliation if any toward communism.

Recently I have read your book masters Of Deceit and also the book None Dare Call It Treason, by John A. Stormer.

I feel that I must have more literature for planned sessions that are to come with our Methodist minister.

EX-108

19 SEP 23 100-50869-1229

SEP 16 1964

Respectfully yours,

[Redacted signature]

CORRESPONDENCE

name adv 9-8-64
DFC/mc

φ

September 8, 1964

REC-34

[REDACTED]

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI
SEP 8 2 18 PM '64

Dear [REDACTED]

I received your letter of September 1st and want to thank you for your generous remarks concerning my administration of the FBI. It is hoped our future endeavors will continue to merit your support and approval.

While I would like to be of service to you, this Bureau does not have a copy of the pamphlet you mentioned available for distribution. Further, I do not know of any source to which I might direct you in order to obtain a copy.

With respect to your inquiry, the FBI does not issue clearances or nonclearances of any type. Therefore, I trust you will understand why this Bureau has not issued either of the statements you mentioned and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature which I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 6
SEP 8 - 1964
COMM FBI

Enclosures (4)

DTP:pemj
(3)

(See Enclosures and NOTE next page)


MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____



Enclosures:

- "Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism"**
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!**
- 4-1-61 LEB Intro**
- 4-17-62 Internal Security statement**

NOTE: We wrote to  on 3-4-63 at which time he was not identifiable in Bufiles. The pamphlet mentioned has been brought to the Bureau's attention in the past.

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

September 1, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
 Director
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have the deepest admiration for you and your organization and what you have done and are doing for our beloved country.

At the moment, I am trying to clear my own conscience, since I, a long time (33 years) warden and vestryman of our parish, have been called "unchristian", by one of our Episcopal bishops for implicating the National Council of Churches in fostering premarital sexual relationships through the publication and distribution of a brochure "Called to Responsible Freedom: Meaning of Sex in the Christian Life". This was published, so I have been told in 1961 by the National Council of Churches for the United Christian Youth Movement.

I wrote to the Office of Publication and Distribution, The National Council of Churches, 475 Riverside Drive, New York 27, New York for one of these pamphlets and had my letter returned with the word "discontinued" in red ink. This seems proof enough that such a pamphlet was published and distributed by the National Council of Churches.

Could you possibly furnish me with a certified copy of this pamphlet, or tell me where I may obtain one?

REC-34
 And may I ask one question? I have read statements in print that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has cleared the National Council of Churches of communism among its personnel, and I have seen in print that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has not so cleared the National Council of Churches. Which is correct?

Sincerely and faithfully yours,

[Redacted signature]

JWJ, Jr. /as

1961-3-1964
 RECORDED
 31

18 SEP 7 1964
 CONFIDENTIAL

REC 12

September 2, 1964

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of August 27th has been received.

With respect to your inquiries, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Therefore, I trust you will understand why I am not in a position to comment along the lines you suggested.

With regard to the National Council of Churches, a representative of the FBI did talk to the group mentioned in the report you named; however, they were not given any information from our files to substantiate their conclusion. Any conclusions drawn by them were strictly their own, and it should be clearly understood that our inability to furnish information to this group should not be the basis for inferring either that we have or have not "cleared" this organization.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 6
SEP 3 - 1964
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (4)

1 - Savannah - Enclosure

DTP:mc (4)

See page 2.

SEP 7 4 04 PM '64
FBI
RECEIVED READING ROOM

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

SEP 16 1964 MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT



Enclosures (4)

4/1/61 LEB Introduction

4/17/62 Internal Security Statement

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Assistant Director Sullivan did meet with this Episcopal Committee in January, 1964. However, Sullivan did not give them information other than the Bureau's official position in regard to these matters. Sullivan has noted that the committee drew their own conclusions and was placing the Bureau in an embarrassing position by these conclusions. Prior inquiries on this topic have been answered along the same lines.



August 27, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

As a Presbyterian minister I feel some kinship with you for I understand you are an Elder in the Presbyterian Church. I hesitate writing you so important, but some response from you or your office would be greatly appreciated.

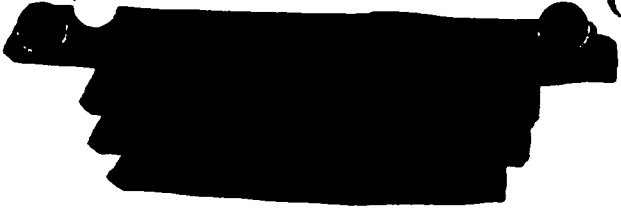
My concern is for reports concerning the National Council of Churches, which seem to be conflicting and both of which refer to the F. B. I. or the House Committee on Un-American Activities for support.

On the one hand, newspapers, pamphlets, etc. refer to the National Council as definitely a Communist conspiracy, or at least overrun with Communist sympathizers. An illustration of this is a printed pamphlet prepared by a Committee of the Session of the Pitts Presbyterian Church of Suster, S. C. charged to investigate certain official records concerning the National Council. Since the chairman of this study committee, Harold R. Bauer, happens to be the highest ranking officer in the South Carolina National Guard (Major General) I assume he is well informed. The pamphlet claims to quote from a hearing before the Committee on Un-American Activities on February 25, 1960 in which a Mr. Arns, Staff Director for the Committee said of a then incomplete check... "thus far of the leadership of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America, we have found over 100 persons in leadership capacity with either Communist front records or records of service to Communist causes". This quote goes on to name Walter Russell Bowie, Henry J. Cadbury, George Dahl, Leroy Waterman, and Fleming Jones as those with numerous affiliations with Communist fronts and causes. I know of most of these men as professors in Theological Seminaries. E

On the other side, I have before me "Supplemental Report I, Report on National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, by the JOINT COMMISSION ON ECUMENICAL RELATIONS OF THE GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (release date January 30, 1964). On page 14 of this report the study committee says "... we have tried honestly to investigate their accusations to the effect that the National Council of Churches is a Communist conspiracy or that it harbors Communist sympathizers and allies. In their examination, therefore, the members of our Study Committee met with personnel of the House Committee on Un-American Activities and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, but were not able to discover any fact or record that would support such charges. We conclude that they are false".

*File
9/15/64
B. J. Appel / m*

REC 12 100-50867-1227
EX 110 SEP 8 1964
CORRECTION P2


Can you please answer these questions for me.

1. Were the five men (Bowie, Cadbury, Dahl, Waterman, and Jones) with "Communist front records or records of service to Communist causes" members of these fronts while the organizations were Communist fronts, or were these men victims of circumstances where organizations to which they belonged later became fronts?

2. Does the F. B. I. feel that there is at this time or ever has been any reason to suspect any of these men are Communists?

3. In as much as the Episcopal Church's Study Committee (quoted in paragraph 4 of this letter) met with personnel of the F. B. I. and found no facts to support charges of Communism in the National Council, does this mean the F. B. I. has no evidence against the National Council or does it mean the F. B. I. does not divulge such evidence even if it has this evidence?

Thank you very much for your help in this matter of immediate concern in our church.

Sincerely,



C 62

September 8, 1964

08



Dear [redacted]:

Your letter of August 31st has been received, and I am glad to know of your interest in my books.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I cannot be of assistance in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

I am enclosing some literature on the general topic of communism which I hope will be of interest. You may wish to know that there is no charge for the publications which this Bureau distributes.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 6
SEP 8 - 1964
COMM-FBI

- Enclosures (5)
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- Faith In God--Our Answer To Communism
- 'Faith In Freedom'

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DFC:rls (3)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

SEP 8 11 46 AM '64
RECEIVED
FBI

August 31, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am very disturbed about the communist influence on organizations which affect the outlook, attitude, and future thoughts of our young people. In particular, I am deeply concerned about the possible adverse influence the National Council of Churches may be having on youth groups of the churches through literature and youth workers directed to the individual churches through the denominational groups, such as the United Lutheran Church of America.

I have delved into every possible avenue for information and have collected quite a bit of pertinent information, but little of it is documented, such as your book MASTERS OF DECEIT is. I have read your new book, A STUDY OF COMMUNISM, but it was General Mark Clark's copy, and I have been unable to locate one to purchase for myself.

If there is any literature available on what the Council of Churches really stands for, or what its influence is, just any enlightening information at all, I would so much appreciate receiving whatever you are free to pass out. If there is any charge for such material, please either send it C.O.D., or notify me of the charge, and I will send a money order for same by return mail.

I greatly appreciate your taking the time from your busy schedule and most important duties to read and answer my appeal.

Oct 62 / 11
Sincerely,

EX-103

REC 12

September 4, 1964

X-108



Dear

Your letter of August 31st has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of assistance in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to National Council of Churches of Christ.

Enclosed is some literature which I trust will be of interest.

MAILED 6
SEP 4 - 1964
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

- Enclosures (4)
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely
- Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DFC:mc

(3)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

SEP 4 12 56 PM '64
FBI
REC'D-READING ROOM

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

Tolson _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 DeLoach _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

[REDACTED]

August 31, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I have been appointed to a committee of the First Methodist Church of [REDACTED] to investigate the National Council of Churches of Christ. I am under the opinion that many activities that are sponsored by this organization are not for the best interest of democracy, but to the contrary, are sympathetic to the Communist cause.

Freedom is America's most valued possession, and with this freedom goes the responsibility of every American to preserve and defend it. Therefore, I would appreciate any assistance that you might lend me by providing materials that your office has on the activities of this organization.

Yours in Freedom,

[REDACTED]

P.S. If you could mail this at your earliest convenience, it would be best appreciated.

REC 12

EX-108

100-50117-1224

6 SEP 8 1964

JAS

CORRECTION

8-31-64

airtel

To: SAC, New York

From: Director, FBI

REC 52

**RELIGION IN COMMUNIST DOMINATED AREAS
RESEARCH (CORRESPONDENCE AND TOURS)**

Enclosed are two copies of a letter dated 8/21/64, addressed to me by Reverend Blahoslav Hruby, Associate Editor of captioned publication. Forwarded with his letter was a copy of a blind letter from R. H. Edwin Espy, the General Secretary of the National Council of the Churches of Christ and thirteen issues of captioned publication.

You should immediately have a mature, experienced Agent who is familiar with Internal Security matters contact Hruby and acknowledge receipt of his letter. It should be explained that in view of my long-standing policy to make no comment concerning material which was not prepared by the FBI or CIA, it will not be possible to grant Hruby's request in this regard. Hruby should also be thanked on my behalf for his offer to have the FBI obtain a subscription to captioned publication, however, this should be declined tactfully.

Subsequently, you should arrange to secure a subscription to captioned publication at a cost of 10 dollars per year without disclosing the Bureau's interest therein. Copies of the publication, as received, should be forwarded to the Bureau, attention Domestic Intelligence Division.

Enclosures (2)

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enclosure
- 1 - V. C. Sullivan - Enclosure

NOTE: Incoming consisted of material published by the Department of International Affairs of the National Council of Churches and has for its stated purpose to make available authentic information on the attitudes and practices of communist parties with respect to the life, work and vital concerns of Christians and peoples of other religions in communist dominated countries. Incoming material was reviewed by the Domestic Intelligence Division and Assistant Director Sullivan felt that one subscription at a cost of 10 dollars per year would be of interest from an intelligence standpoint.

PDW:mlk (7)

Handwritten signatures and initials:
 J. Edgar Hoover
 W.C. Sullivan
 M. W. [unclear]
 [unclear]

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- DeLoach _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

w/ltk

Handwritten notes and initials at bottom right.

Religion in Communist Dominated Areas

Documentation from original sources, selected and translated under the direction of Paul B. Anderson, Editor, Blahoslav S Hruby, Associate Editor. Published bi-weekly.

DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, 475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10027

The purpose of this service is to make available authentic information on the attitudes and practices of Communist parties with respect to the life, work and vital concerns of Christians and peoples of other religions in Communist dominated countries.

August 21, 1964

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I wish to call to your attention our publication, "Religion in Communist Dominated Areas," which is now in its Volume III. We feel very strongly that it is a valuable and helpful tool for all people who are concerned with the problem of Communism in general and with the problem of Communism and religion in particular. A copy of Dr. R. H. Edwin Espy's letter, General Secretary of the National Council of Churches, which I enclose for your information, explains in more detail the origin, purpose and scope of this bulletin.

We are receiving many encouraging letters from individuals and ecclesiastical, secular and governmental institutions and agencies in the United States as well as abroad who want to be put on our mailing list.

At the present time we are trying to make Religion in Communist Dominated Areas available to a larger readership in this country as well as abroad and, particularly, in Africa (I wish we could afford a French edition), Asia and South America (I wish we could afford a Spanish edition) where Communist propaganda is extremely strong. Unfortunately, our budget is limited and we are unable to do as much as we should like to do.

I wonder whether your agency could order for your central as well as regional and local offices Religion in Communist Dominated Areas for a service fee of \$10.00 a year per order.

Enclosed for your information please find all issues of Vol. III. It would be very helpful to us if you as an expert on Communism could give us your appraisal of our publication. Any criticism or suggestions regarding our publication, its wider circulation, etc. will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

EX-108
(Rev.) Blahoslav Hruby

105

August 31, 1964

REC 30

AUG 31 1 13 PM '64
READING ROOM



Dear

Your letter of August 26th has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I regret that I am unable to be of assistance and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of The Churches of Christ.

Sincerely yours,

NOTE: Bufiles contain no reference to [redacted] and the National Council of Churches of Christ includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869).

WAM:deh (3)

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

August 26, 1951

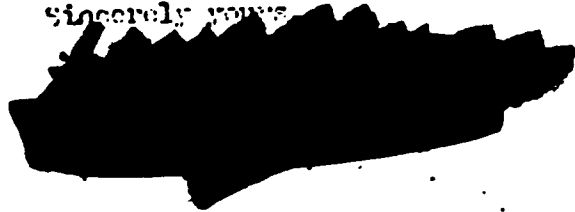
The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Due to the great controversy and discussion in our area regarding the National Council of the Churches of Christ in The U.S.A. I would appreciate very much a statement from you stating in your opinion whether there are either communists or communistic influences in this group.

Thanking you very much, I am

Sincerely yours,



ERH/m
12-103

REC 30 / 11

SEP 1 1951

Handwritten signature

Handwritten notes

August 23, 1964

REC- 62

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of August 24th has been received.

With regard to your inquiry concerning the National Council of Churches of Christ, I would like to point out that information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to this organization.

Sincerely yours,
E. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant Churches in the country. Various critics of the Council without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI has not investigated the NCCC. Bufiles contain no information regarding [REDACTED]

WAH:sls
(3)

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

SEP 3 1964

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

August 24, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In recent years there has been a lot of controversy concerning the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. Many accusations have been made that the Council has either communistic leaders or men who tend to be communistic in their thinking. If the Federal Bureau of Investigation has ever made an investigation of this organization and if there is a report available I would appreciate it very much if you could furnish me with such report or any word that you may give me about this matter.

Sincerely yours,

JED:IF

REC-62

12 AUG 53 1964

CORRESPONDENCE

REC 30

August 2, 1964

[REDACTED]

Your letter of August 2nd has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information in all files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files regarding the National Council of Churches.

REC'D - NEW YORK
AUG 29 3 24 PM '64

Sincerely yours,

W. Edgar Hoover

RE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

WJH:pj (5)

1.5

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. DeLoach _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Bishop _____
- Mr. Casper _____
- Mr. Callahan _____
- Mr. Conrad _____
- Mr. Felt _____
- Mr. Gale _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Sullivan _____
- Mr. Tavel _____
- Mr. Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Miss Holmes _____
- Miss Gandy _____

TRUE COPY


August 23, 1964

Dear Sir:

I am making a study of the National Council of Churches and would appreciate any background information or studies you could release to me.

Thank you

/s/ 

ADDRESS PER ENVELOPE:



REC 30

11/14

[REDACTED]

August 23, 1964

Dear Sir,

I am making a study of
the National Council of Churches
and would appreciate any
background information or
studies you could release to me.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

7/25/64

[REDACTED]

CORRESPONDENCE

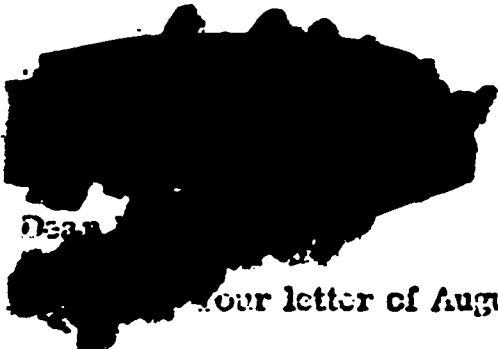
tc 8-26-64 mg

ack 8-27-64

EFT:mg/pjs

August 27, 1964

REC-92



Dear _____

Your letter of August 24th has been received.

With respect to your inquiries, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Further, it is contrary to my policy to comment on material not prepared by this Bureau or by me. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the matters you mentioned.

Aug 27 3 55 PM '64
FBI
REC'D - READING ROOM

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

✓

- Enclosures (5)
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- Faith in God -- Our Answer to Communism
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
- Faith in Freedom

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. For the purpose of this reply the individuals mentioned in connection with the National Council of Churches were not checked through Bureau files.

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. DeLoach _____
 Mr. Mohr _____
 Mr. Bishop _____
 Mr. Casper _____
 Mr. Callahan _____
 Mr. Conrad _____
 Mr. Felt _____
 Mr. Gale _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Sullivan _____
 Mr. Tavel _____
 Mr. Trotter _____
 Mr. Tele. Room _____
 Mr. Holmes _____
 Miss Gandy _____

DTP:mc (3)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

53 SEP 3 1964



[REDACTED]

Aug. 24, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
F. B. I.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

A study is being made in our Church of the National Council of Churches. We are considering withdrawing all funds and support from this organization. It has been brought to our attention that many of the leaders of the NCC have either Communist front records or records of service to Communist affiliations: Walter Russell Bowie, Henry J. Cadbury, George Dahl, Leroy Waterman, Fleming Jones. I would appreciate any information you have on any of these men or on the National Council of Churches of Christ in America.

Are you familiar with the book None Dare Call it Treason by John A. Stormer, published by Liberty Bell Press, Florissant, Missouri? If so, can you tell me if there is any basis for his accusations against people such as Dean Rusk, Howard K. Smith and Franklin D. Roosevelt?

In this age it seems very hard to know the truth. Please help me in any way that you can.

Yours Truly,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

REC-31 /

9

August 28, 1964

REC-31

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI
AUG 28 11 46 AM '64

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I received your letter of August 24th and want to thank you for your kind sentiments and generous remarks concerning my administration of the FBI. It is hoped my future endeavors will continue to merit such approbation.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

In response to your request, I am enclosing two copies of the articles you mentioned, along with other literature which I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Enclosures (5)

- The Communist Menace: Red Goals and Christian Ideals (2)
- "Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism"
- Internal Security Statement, 4-17-62
- LEB Introduction, 4-1-61

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DTP:blk
(3)

Mr. Tolson
 Mr. DeLoach
 Mr. Mohr
 Mr. Bishop
 Mr. Casper
 Mr. Callahan
 Mr. Conrad
 Mr. Felt
 Mr. Gale
 Mr. Rosen
 Mr. Sullivan
 Mr. Tavel
 Mr. Trotter
 Mr. Tele. Room
 Mr. Holmes
 Miss Gandy

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Casper _____
- Mr. Callahan _____
- Mr. Conrad _____
- Mr. DeLoach _____
- Mr. Evans _____
- Mr. Gale _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Sullivan _____
- Mr. Tavel _____
- Mr. Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Miss Holmes _____
- Miss Gandy _____

[Redacted]
 August 24, 1960

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

First, may I tell you that I thank Almighty God that our great nation has had you as the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for so many years. All Americans who love their country and their freedom owe a debt of gratitude to you. Personally, I want to say "Thank you, Mr. Hoover, for a job well done."

At the very beginning I want to make it clear that I am not accusing anyone of anything but, rather I am writing to you for information on something that deeply disturbs me. I am a Protestant (Presbyterian) and it is imperative that I know something about what our hard earned money is going to support. It has been reported for many years that the National Council of Churches has become Communist infiltrated in key places—places where policy is formulated and passed on down to the local Churches. To what extent is this really true? Is it possible that two to three percent of Protestant ministers are Communists or are affiliated with Communist front organizations?

I am not asking if any substantial part of the Protestant clergy is Communist or pro-Communist. Please just tell me to what extent the clergy has been infiltrated by Communists. What can the average citizen such as I do to remedy this situation? The Church should be the last bulwark against any Godless ideology. If it is really true that the Church has been infiltrated, where does one turn for the Truth?

Do you have copies of articles published in Christianity Today in 1960 in which you mentioned "to neutralize clerical opposition to Communism"?

Please give me any information concerning this matter that you possibly can. Thank you.

Yours very truly,

[Redacted Signature]

Handwritten notes:
 100-54251
 100-54251-100

100-54251-100

August 25, 1964

REC 39

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

[Handwritten signature]

FBI
FBI READING ROOM

AUG 25 4 33 AM '64

Your letter of August 17th has been received.

While I would like to be of assistance, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of the Churches of Christ.

For your information, the Internal Security Act of 1950 required all members of the Communist Party to register with the Attorney General; however, to date none have registered. In hearings before the Subversive Activities Control Board, the Attorney General asked that orders be issued requiring thirty-seven individual members of the Communist Party to register in accordance with the provisions of the above Act. Orders have been issued, and were upheld by the District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals on April 23, 1964, requiring thirty-one of these persons to register. The remaining six matters are still under consideration. The Communist Party on July 13, 1964, petitioned the United States Supreme Court for a writ of certiorari.

✓

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The Bureau has not investigated the National Council of Churches of Christ which includes in its membership the leading Protestant Churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have alleged this group is communist controlled or influenced.

PDW:med (3)

[Handwritten initials]

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. DeLoach _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Bishop _____
- Mr. Casper _____
- Mr. Callahan _____
- Mr. Conrad _____
- Mr. Felt _____
- Mr. Gale _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Sullivan _____
- Mr. Tavel _____
- Mr. Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Miss Holmes _____
- Miss Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT


August 17, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

As a Special Fact-finding Committee, we are requesting information regarding the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.

Due to the publicity that this organization has had recently, could you tell us if this organization or any of its paid officials have any communist affiliations, and are any of its former officials communist.

We assume that all members of the communist party are registered and such information is a matter of public information.

If we are in order by making such a request, we would appreciate a reply.

Yours very truly,



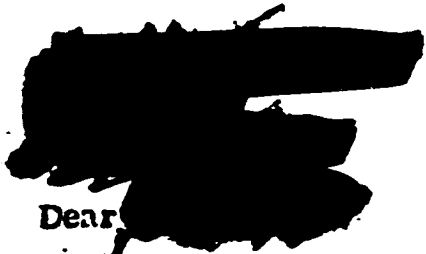
REC 39

AUG 18 1964

AUG 26 1964

REC 7

August 20, 1964



Dear

Your letter of August 16th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, Dan Smoot was employed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a Special Agent from March, 1942, to June, 1951, when he voluntarily resigned. His personal ventures and his opinions and comments are strictly his own and this Bureau is not in a position to comment on these in any way whatsoever.

With regard to the National Council of Churches, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data relating to this organization.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

AUG 20 1 03 PM '64
B-1
RECEIVED

- Enclosures (5)
- "Faith in Freedom"
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- "Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism"
- 4/1/61 LEB Introduction
- 4/17/62 Internal Security
- NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
- DTP:dll (3)

- _____ Tolson
- _____ Belmont
- _____ Mohr
- _____ DeLoach
- _____ Casper
- _____ Callahan
- _____ Conrad
- _____ Felt
- _____ Gale
- _____ Rosen
- _____ Sullivan
- _____ Tavel
- _____ Trotter
- _____ Tele. Room
- _____ Holmes
- _____ Gandy

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

TRUE COPY


August 16, 1964

Dear Sir:

Recently an article denouncing the National Council of Churches as being infiltrated with communists, came into our hands in a publication called "The Dan Smoot Report." The publication also gave a few notes on the life of Dan Smoot, stating that he worked with the F. B. I. for a number of years. Thus his articles seem to be authentic. However, to rural communities who do not feel the influence of communism, the article is hard to believe.

Our discussion group would appreciate an answer to the question, "Is this article true?" We would like to receive an answer and explanation as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



REC 4 .

8-27-64

[Redacted]
August 16, 1964

Dear Sir:

Recently an article denouncing the National Council of Churches as being infiltrated with Communists, came into our hands in a publication called "The Hon. Smart Report."

The publication also gave a few notes on the life of Hon. Smart, stating that he worked with the F.B.I. for a number of years. Thus his articles seem to be authentic. However, to rural communities who do not feel the influence of Communism, the article is hard to believe.

Our discussion group would appreciate an answer to the question, "Is this article true?" We would like to receive an answer and explanation as soon as possible.

Sincerely,
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

August 20, 1962

REC. 8



AUG 20 11 42 AM '62
REC'D - READING ROOM
FBI

Dear

Your letter of August 17th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (2)
"Faith in God-- Our Answer To Communism"
4/1/61 LEB Intro
4/17/62 Internal Security
Let's Fight Communism Sanelly!

NOTE: There is no data in Bufiles to preclude this letter.

DTP:fcl (3)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Bishop _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Mr. Tele. Room _____
Mr. Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

[REDACTED]

17 August 1964

The Hon. J. Edgar Hoover, Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir; .

Do you have any literature on the subversive activities of The National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.? I am particularly anxious to get some facts on the Council's present activities in Mississippi.

Any information you will be able to furnish will be appreciated.

Yours very truly,

[REDACTED]

REC 8

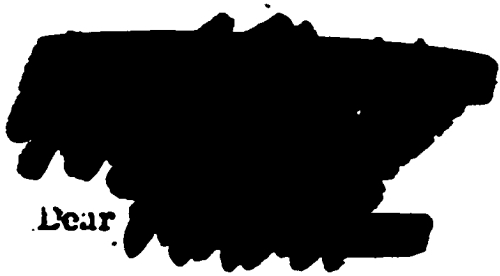
116

AUG 24 1964

CORRESPONDENCE

REC- 51

August 21, 1964



Dear

Your letter of August 17th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Further, it is contrary to my policy to comment on material not prepared by this Bureau or by me. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files concerning the matters you mentioned.

Enclosed is some material I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

REC'D
FBI
READING ROOM
AUG 21 10 22 AM '64

- Enclosures (4)
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
- "Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. "How Red is the National Council of Churches?" is disseminated by the American Council of Christian Laymen. A quotation of the Director has been frequently brought to our attention. The statement, used out of context, implied that certain individuals of the National Council of Churches are subversive.

DTP:ems (3)

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

JPH

TRUE COPY

Aug. 17, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Dept. of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I have in my possession materials which state that some present and past officers of the National (Federal) Council of Churches helped Communist organizations and lists a number of some of the Red groups they have aided. The American Council of Christian Laymen have advised me of this and urge that "Christian Americans must act vigorously and promptly--or their churches will become no more than wings of the Communist-Socialist movement."

Before taking any steps to "act" I would appreciate a verification as to the validity of these assertions. I do not necessarily doubt the material but feel that a verification would provide a solid working foundation.

Would appreciate your assistance on this subject as I would like to take a stand as a Christian patriot.

Very sincerely,
REC-51

(Federal)

P. S. The leaflet to which I refer is "How Red is the National Council of Churches?" published by American Council of Christian Laymen.

William D. ...
Aug 17, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
F. B. I. Dept.
12th St. N. W. of Church
Room 2700 Hoover

I know you are a
very busy man and as I have
hesitated to ask you again
in this matter, but I
believe you are the only one
who can answer this in a
satisfactory manner.

I am a member of
a Protestant Church in the
City of [redacted] This
Church belongs to the Nat.
Council of Churches and is
most of the other churches
in the City. but I have heard
from some of the smaller
churches who do not belong
to the Nat. Council, who
think I am not a member.

Aug. 17, 1969

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Dept. of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I have in my possession materials which state that present and past officers of the National (Federal) Council of Churches helped communist organizations and lists a number of some of the Red groups they have aided. The American Council of Christian Laymen have advised me of this and urge that Christian Americans must act vigorously and promptly -- or their churches will become no more than wings of the Communist Socialist movement.

Before taking any steps to act on this information,

CORRESPONDENCE

appreciate a verification as to the validity of
these assertions. I do not necessarily doubt
the material but feel that a verification
would provide a solid working foundation.

I would appreciate your assistance on this
subject as I would like to take a stand as
a Christian patriot.

Very sincerely,

A large, solid black rectangular redaction covers the signature area of the letter.

P.S. The leaflet to which I refer is New Red
is the ^{Federal} National Council of Churches published
by American Council of Christian Laymen.

August 20, 1951

[Redacted]
Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of August 17th, with enclosure, has been received, and I want to thank you for your expression of confidence.

With respect to your inquiries, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Further, it is contrary to my policy to comment on material not prepared by this Bureau or by me. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches or the individual you mentioned.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

AUG 20 7 20 PM '51
FBI READING ROOM

Enclosures (4)

"Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"

4/1/61 LEB Intro

4/17/62 Internal Security

Let's Fight Communism Sanelly!

NOTE: There is no data in Bureau files to preclude this letter. Dr. Poling, of the Presbyterian Church, has been critical of the National Council of Churches.

DTP:icl (3)

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Boardman
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Winterrowd
- Mr. Holloman
- Miss Gandy



TRUE COPY


Aug. 17-1964.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover.
F. B. I. Dept.

Dear Mr. Hoover-

I know you are a very busy man and so I have hesitated to ask your opinion in this matter, but I believe you are the only one who can answer this in a satisfactory manner.

I am a Member of a Protestant Church in the City of  This Church belongs to the Nat. Council of Churches  do most of the other Churches in the City. But I have friends from some of the smaller Churches who do not belong to the Nat. Council, who say when I contribute to My Church that I am helping the Communist cause. That the Nat. Council of Churches are badly infiltrated by the Communist. I have talked with Ministers and laymen who should know, but have not had a satisfactory answer. So that is why I am appealing to you for the answer.

Are the Churches and the Council without realizing it helping the Communist? and can a person rely on the writings of Dr. Charles Poling D. D. ?

May I have a personal reply? As I know you are the only person who really knows where Communism exists.

Very Sincerely.



9 1 5 1

the Nat. Council of Churches
are badly infiltrated by the
Communists. I have talked
with ministers and laymen
who should know, but have
not had satisfactory answers.
So that is why I am appealing
to you for the answer.

Are the churches and
the Council, with out
realizing it helping the
Communist? and can a
person rely on the writings
of Rev. Charles F. Johnson D.D.?

May I have a personal
reply? As I know you are the
only person who really knows
where Communism exists.

Very Sincerely,



REC-38

August 17, 1964

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Dear [REDACTED]

Robert J. [unclear]

REC AUG 23 16 PM '64
FBI READING ROOM

Your letter of August 12th has been received.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. We were not consulted on the content of this article and did not assist in its preparation. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

With respect to the National Council of Churches, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Further, this Bureau does not issue clearances or nonclearances of any type. Therefore, I trust you will understand why I am not in a position to furnish you the statement you have requested. In addition, it is hoped you will not use the inability of this Bureau to furnish data as the basis for inferring, either that we have or have not "cleared" this organization.

Enclosed is some literature I hope will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 4
AUG 17 1964
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (1)

[Handwritten signature]

FBI 515 (3)

(See page 2)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Enc.

Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism

Let's Fight Communism Sanely

4-17-62 Internal Security Statement

4-1-61 LEB Introduction

NOTE: Cassels' writings on this subject are well known to the Bureau and prompted a flood of inquiries concerning our position at the time. The answer set forth in paragraph 2 was suggested and approved in M. A. Jones to Mr. DeLoach Memorandum dated 4-16-62.

[Redacted]
August 16, 1964

Dear Sir:

Recently an article denouncing the National Council of Churches as being infiltrated with Communists, came into our hands in a publication called "The Hon Smoot Report."

The publication also gave a few notes on the life of Hon Smoot, stating that he worked with the F.B.I. for a number of years. Thus his articles seem to be authentic. However, to rural communities who do not feel the influence of communism, the article is hard to believe.

Our discussion group would appreciate an answer to the question, "Is this article true?" We would like to receive an answer and explanation as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

recd 8-20-64
LTI dll

[Handwritten initials]

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

August 12, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
 Federal Bureau Investigation
 Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have in hand an article written by Mr. Louis Cassels, of United Press International, dated April 29, 1961, which appeared in a number of newspapers throughout the United States. The thesis of Mr. Cassels' article concerns Communist infiltration in sundry churches and organizations in the United States. The article states that the Communist party "has not achieved any substantial success in exerting domination, control or influence over America's clergymen or religious institutions on a national scale". This statement was attributed to Mr. William C. Sullivan, at that time and perhaps still, Chief Inspector of the FBI.

The charge of Communist infiltration particularly in the National Council of Churches of Christ, has again been raised both by the newspapers and in the minds of a number of people in this community. The climate in Lynchburg is tense with regard to this matter, especially since the National Council of Churches became the sponsor of the Mississippi delta project this summer with its attendant school in Oxford, Ohio. Would it be possible for you or someone in your office to furnish me an authoritative, current statement concerning whether there has been Communist penetration into the NCC organization or any other church-dominated organization; and if so, the extent of such penetration. With your permission, I would like to disseminate that statement to those people who have expressed concern and alarm over communism in American churches.

Thanking you in advance, I remain

Very truly yours,

WRR:bd

100-53467-111

REC-38

21

16 AUG 23 1964

REC'D OFFICE

AUG 19 1964

REC-6

100 2367-1011

August 17, 1964

AUG 17 10 59 AM '64
FBI READING ROOM

Dear Mr. _____

Your letter of August 12th has been received and I am glad to learn that this Bureau has been of help to you.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of assistance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files concerning the National Council of Churches or individuals connected with it.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

MAILED 4
AUG 17 1964
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

- Enclosures (4)
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism

NOTE: No derogatory information appears in Bufiles concerning Reverend

DTP:ems

AUG 23 1964

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- DeLoach
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- Felt
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes

P. 31

August 12, 1964

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am quite sure you grow tired of inquiries such as the one I am making, for surely with the unrest in our country today, these questions are asked many times. It would be of great benefit to me, however, to have your answer to this question to assist a few of my people in understanding the total program of the church. You have been very helpful to me personally, in assisting me with speakers from the FBI in groups discussing the Communist problem.

It appears that a great deal of question has arisen in our area concerning the National Council of Churches and its so-called Communist leanings. Would you please send me information concerning clergymen or other personnel in the NCC organization who have been found to be Communists, or Communist sympathizers?

This information in my files will be of great help in dealing with the problem in my community.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Very sincerely,

REC-6

EX 109

100-30207-111
AUG 13 1964
CORRESPONDENCE
Dm

August 14, 1964

REC 400-508694

[Redacted]

REC'D-READING ROOM
AUG 14 2 03 PM '64
W.S. [Signature]

Dear [Redacted]

I received your letter of August 10th and want to thank you for your generous remarks concerning my administration of the FBI and for your interest in my speech. It is hoped our future endeavors continue to merit your support and approval.

With respect to your inquiries, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Further, it is contrary to my policy to comment on material not prepared by this Bureau or by me. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the matters you mentioned.

The FBI, being an investigative agency of the Federal Government, neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. Therefore, I trust you will understand why I am not in a position to direct you to sources to obtain the information you have requested.

Enclosed is some literature which includes suggestions all of us can use in combating the menace of communism. I am also sending you a copy of one of my recent speeches. In addition, you may wish to read my books, "Masters of Deceit" and "A Study of Communism." These were written in order to help Americans gain an insight into the strategy and tactics of communists, both in this country and abroad. Copies may be available in your local library.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

[Handwritten initials]

(See Note and enclosures page 2)

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

Enclosures (5)
DTP:pjl (3)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT



Enclosures

4/17/62 Internal Security Statement

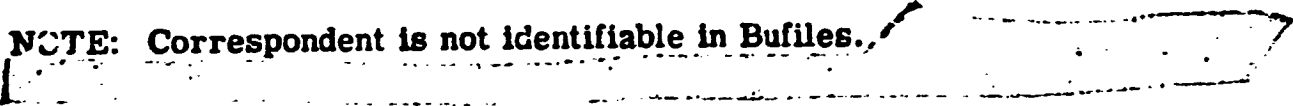
4/1/61 LEB Introduction

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism

Faith in Freedom

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.



TRUE COPY

Aug. 10, 1964

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I have been reading a number of books from different sources which have me greatly concerned about the internal threat of Communism in the U. S. today. The anti-communist organizations seem to be fighting an uphill battle, and living in a relatively small town, it is hard to get information. Could you please suggest sources of information you would consider reliable as to the communist infiltration in our country and the state of its influence today?

I have a copy of a speech you made in 1961 in an effort to alert Americans to communist dangers. Do you have any more recent speeches I might get copies of?

I am especially interested in material on the National Council of churches and Communist influence in the race riots, and in the Civil Rights Movements.

Has Ralph Lord Roy belonged to any Communist front organizations? What is his present status? How well are Theodore Drapen, Robert W. Iversen, David A. Shannon, and Clinton Rossiter qualified to write about Communism in America?

Can you give me any background material on Billie James Hargis? Does the F. B. I. make any official statement about the Christian Crusade, the John Birch Society, or Dr. Schwarz' Anti-Communist League (I'm not sure that name is exactly correct) in California?

REF: 77-50861-

[REDACTED]

ON
Tel
a
ST

5-10-64

Would you consider John Stormer's book, "Dare Not Call It Treason" reliable?

With the press so one-sided and undependable and the State Department's actions in the past few years so illogical to one who has America's best interests at heart, I feel rather desperate for sources of information I can honestly trust. I have complete faith in you and your integrity. For the sakes of all Americans, please live to be 100!

P. S. If there is any charge for the material, please advise me.

Most sincerely,



Aug. 10, 1964

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I have been reading a number of books from different sources which have me greatly concerned about the internal threat of Communism in the U. S. today. The anti-Communist organizations seem to be fighting an uphill battle, and living in a relatively small town, it is hard to get information. Could you please suggest sources of information you would consider reliable as to the Communist infiltration in our country and the state of its influence today?

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CORRESPONDENCE

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and undependable and the
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the past few years so illogical
to one who has America's
best interests at heart, I feel
rather desperate for sources
of information I can honestly
trust. I have complete faith
in you and your integrity.
For the sake of all Americans
please live to be 100!

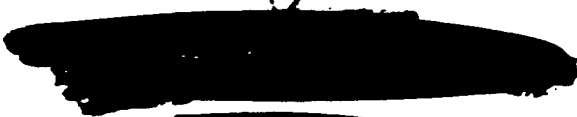
P.S. If there is any charge
for the material, please
advise me.

Most sincerely,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

August 6, 1964

REC 27 100 20861-1



Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of August 1st has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature I hope will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI
AUG 6 2 13 PM '64

Enclosures (4)
Internal Security Statement - 4/17/62
4/1/61 LEB Introduction

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism
NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Bufiles.
DTP:dll (3)

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

45-5142-101-1000

August 1, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

This letter may be out of order, but since the question of Communism is very disturbing in these days, I would like to have some information on this subject if it is possible for you to release this information to individuals.

I would like to know if Communists or Communist sympathizers are in the National Council of Churches. Some of the acts of this organization seem to lean in this direction.

I am a member of the Methodist Church and this particular church is a member of the National Council of Churches. A portion of the money which we contribute goes to the National Council. If communists are involved in this organization I do not want any of my contributions to go to such an organization.

Any information which you can give will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

REC 27

100-50869-1

AUG 11 1964

CONFIDENTIAL

August 6, 1964

EC 14

EX-108

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of August 3rd has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover.

AUG 12 00 PM '64
FBI READING ROOM

Enclosures (4)

- "Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. "None Dare Call It Treason" has been brought to our attention by many citizen inquiries. The Director is quoted frequently and it is not felt that we should either substantiate or disclaim its accuracy in order to avoid the implication that we approve or disapprove of the book.

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- L. Leach
- Evans
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

DTP:rls (3)

AUG 17 1964

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

August 3, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Our church, [REDACTED] Presbyterian Church of [REDACTED], is in the midst of a very serious controversy over the danger of the National Council of Churches to our democratic processes. There are some, of whom I am one, who consider membership in the National Council of Churches as contributing to the subtle infiltration of communism into the Protestant Christian Religions of America. Yet, there are those who contend that, since the NCC "does some good" our affiliation with it should be continued, even tho many of these admit that some of the NCC's actions are in direct opposition to our beliefs and principles.

You have been quoted frequently in the volume, "None Dare Call It Treason" by John A. Stormer, published by The Liberty Bell Press, Florissant, Missouri, on the infiltration of communism into religious as well as governmental, educational, labor and other organizations, either directly or thru "front" organizations and individuals of socialist or communistic beliefs.

I believe you have been accurately quoted. Will you give me a brief statement of your opinion of the National Council of Churches, that I may present it to the members of our congregation?

REC 14 100-5-11-1-1
Since I am a retired member of the Army of the United States, I am signing this letter with my rank and serial number EX-108 NOV 11 1964

Sincerely yours,
[REDACTED]

CORRESPONDENCE
76

REC-21 100-51169-12

August 6, 1964

51-101

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of July 31st has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I cannot be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped that you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

In addition, Mr. Smoot was employed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a Special Agent from March 23, 1942, until July 15, 1951, when he voluntarily resigned. Inasmuch as his present activities are personal ventures of his own, I am unable to comment on them in any manner whatsoever.

Enclosed is some material which I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

RECEIVED
FBI
READING ROOM
AUG 13 3 29 PM '64

Enclosures (4)
Internal Security 4-17-62
Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism
Let's Fight Communism Sanelly!
LEB Intro 4-1-61
NCTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
DFC:pjf (3)

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

179 AUG 13 1964

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

July 31, 1964

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25,
D. C.

Dear Sirs:

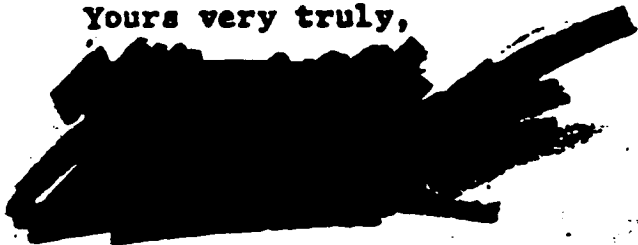
I am a member of a church committee conducting an inquiry into the programs and policies of the National Council of Churches.

It will be appreciated if you will furnish such information as may be made available from such investigation or inquiry as has been made by your office in this respect.

From information furnished us it appears that considerable amount of criticism of the programs and policies of the National Council of Churches has been leveled by Mr. Dan Smoot whom we understand was at one time associated with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Such additional information as you may furnish in this respect will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your co-operation and assistance.

Yours very truly,



FDH:j

ST-104

REC-21

100-200000-1207

16 AUG 11 1964

CORRESPONDENCE

REC-21 100-30760

August 6, 1964

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI
AUG 6 3 43 PM '64

Dear [REDACTED]

I received your letter of August 3rd, with postage stamps enclosed, and want to thank you for your expression of confidence in this Bureau.

With respect to your inquiries, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Further, it is contrary to my policy to comment on material not prepared by this Bureau or by me. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects you mentioned.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest, along with the postage you so thoughtfully forwarded.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

- Enclosures (10)
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
- "Faith in Freedom"
- "Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

DTP:ems

(3) (See NOTE page 2)

79 AUG 13 1964


MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials]



NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. "None Dare Call It Treason" and its author have been the subjects of considerable citizen inquiry. "Eternity" is a publication formerly edited by the late Dr. Donald Barnhouse, who was a prominent minister in the Presbyterian Church and who died in November, 1960. The magazine has no connection with the Presbyterian Church. Barnhouse was extremely anti-Bureau and printed several critical articles about the FBI. He was on the "Do Not Contact" list.

TRUE COPY

August 3, '64

My Dear Mr. Hoover,

Here in our small community, we are embroiled
in a bitter dispute over the -
"National Council of Churches"

I have just read a book by John Stormer called "None Dare Call
It Treason" boldly assailing the Council as throughly Communistic.
Now today I read an article on the N.C.C. in a publication called
"Eternity" (printed by the Evangelical Foundation of Philadelphia)
claiming the Council has been slandered & misjujed.

What is the truth?

My church takes N.C.C. material and my 5 little children study
from it, so I must find out from whence this "stuff" is coming!
I am not a crusader but I am a staunch patriot, who dearly loves
her country and will defend it to the end.

So you are my last hope. What is the truth? Can you send me
any information or tell me where I can obtain some on:

The National Council of Churches
John Stormer & his "None Dare Call It Treason"
Eternity (Evangelical Publication)

REC-21
You see we want to work for our country, but we must have the
facts. Please do not fail us as your organization is the only one
we felt we could turn to for complete honesty. Enclosed are
some stamps to send along any information, if it's not enough
I will pay additional postage on arrival.

Thanking you so much, and with greatest respect & admiration--

[REDACTED]

S. ETP

August 1957

My Dear Mr. Hoover,

Here in our small community we are embroiled in a bitter dispute over the

National Council of Churches

I have just read a book by John Stormer called "None Dare Call It Treason" boldly assailing the Council as thoroughly Communist. Now today I read an article on the N.C.C. in a publication called "Eternity" (printed by the Evangelical Foundation of Philadelphia) claiming the Council has been slandered & misjudged.

What is the truth?

My church takes N.C.C. material and my 5 little children are kept from it, so I must find out from whence this stuff is coming.

Am not a crusader but I am

CORRESPONDENCE

a staunch patriot, who dearly
loves her country and will
defend it to the end.

So you are my last hope. What
is the truth? Can you send me
any information or tell me where
I can obtain some on.

The National Council of Churches
John Storer's "New Day Call"
Eternity (Evangelical Publications)

You see we want to work for
our country, but we must have help.
Please do not fail us, as your
organization is the only one we felt
we could turn to for complete help.

Enclosed are some stamps to cover
along any information, if you
will pay additional postage.

Thanking you so much, and with
greatest respect & admiration.